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THE TIMES

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No 64,241 WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29 1992 40p

Labour predicts increase to 22%

Major pledges Tories will not raise VAT

BY ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major gave an unequivocal pledge yesterday that a re-elected Conservative government would not raise the rate of value-added tax.

His unexpectedly precise declaration in the Commons swiftly countered a Labour campaign alleging that the Tories planned to raise VAT from 17.5 to 22 per cent if returned to office. But it also limited the options for any future Conservative chancellor.

Downing Street confirmed later that the prime minister's commitment had been deliberate and that it extended to using Britain's veto should the European Community attempt to impose higher rates.

Mr Major's pledge came during question time, shortly after Labour launched a nationwide poster campaign depicting Norman Lamont as "Vatman" in cloak and pointed ears alongside the slogan "Vote Conservative and you will pay 22 per cent VAT". John Smith, the shadow chancellor, had told a campaign press conference: "Whenever Conservatives need extra revenue they turn to their favourite tax. The Tory pledge is to cut income tax to 20 per cent. If they do so, they either have to slash spending on public services or put up VAT once again to 22 per cent."

In the Commons, Mr Kinnock joined the attack and demanded to know the government's intentions on the tax, pointing out that Conservative governments had raised it five times in 13 years and predicting that they would do so again. At first, Mr Major contented himself with the standard reply — used regularly by his Chancellor — that the government had "no plans" to increase VAT.

Labour clearly expected him to stick to that formula. Mr Smith had told the earlier press conference that it was the Tory practice to deny intentions of a VAT increase before elections but to raise it afterwards. Sir Geoffrey Howe had said there were "no plans" for an increase only weeks before he raised the rate from 8 to 15 per cent in 1979.

But when Mr Kinnock suggested in the Commons that the prime minister was following his predecessors' practice, Mr Major was specific. Calling Mr Kinnock's claims a "fib", he declared: "There will be no VAT increase. Unlike the Labour party, we have published our spending plans and there is no need for us to raise VAT in order to meet them." The prime minister went on to say that before the last election, Roy Hattersley had predicted that the Tory would raise VAT to 60 per cent and forecast a Labour landslide. "He was wrong on both points and he is wrong now," Mr Major added.

Conservative MPs were delighted, but opposition MPs believed that Mr Major may have been stung into a commitment a future Tory government might regret.

The electioneering atmosphere was heightened later when Michael Howard, the employment secretary, chose to make a Commons statement reaffirming the government's plans for more industrial relations legislation in the next parliament.

In what opposition MPs saw as a blatantly political manipulation of the Commons agenda, Mr Howard announced a series of measures to reduce "the abuse of industrial power". Clearly designed to point up the differences between the parties on trades union issues, Mr Howard's package included the right for employees to join the union of their choice, compulsory seven-day warnings of strikes in public services, the right for members of the public to go to court to halt unlawful industrial action in public services and a ban on workplace strike ballots.

Tony Blair, the shadow employment secretary, complained: "These proposals are not here today for the sake of better industrial relations, but for the sake of the worst prejudices of the Tory party."

Mr Howard, who has already been cautioned by the the Speaker for electioneering, said a Labour government would roll back the legislation of the past 12 years and "put the trade unions back in the driving seat and make strikes easier, longer, more frequent and more damaging than ever before".

Mr Blair retorted that there were scores of rights in the package to be exercised against trades unions, but not one to increase people's rights to fair treatment by their employers. He accused the government of returning to the agenda of the 1970s because they had no answer to the problems of the 1990s.

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Diary, page 10
Letters, page 11
Matthew Parris, page 14
Bloodstock worry, page 23

Yeltsin in sight again

Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, reappeared yesterday in the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk after disappearing from view in Moscow on Monday. He is due in London tomorrow before flying to the UN.

His spokesman said Mr Yeltsin's unexpected visit to the Black Sea fleet, the subject of a dispute between Russia and Ukraine, was connected with preparations for the UN meeting ..... Page 8

Tax loophole move delayed

The government last night refused to take immediate action to close a loophole threatening to stop councils taking poll tax defaulters to court ..... Page 2

Woman guilty

Aileen Wuornos, nicknamed the "damsel of death," could be executed in the electric chair after being found guilty of murdering one of seven men she has confessed to killing in Florida ..... Page 7

Road award

A road accident victim was yesterday awarded more than £220,000 damages after a revolutionary back pain "lie detector" was used for the first time in a British court. The judge said it did not influence his decision ..... Page 3

School reform

Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, yesterday promised to extend his teacher training reforms to include all new entrants to the profession ..... Page 5

Boycott at bay

Geoffrey Boycott, coaching the England cricket team in New Zealand, has been criticised for accusing Ian Botham of being unprofessional in his approach to the game ..... Page 26

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Jinna Sabiaga and her son Daniel after arriving at Heathrow yesterday

Peer's son arrives to claim his title

BY LIN JENKINS

THE woman accepted by the family as the widow of Lord Moynihan of Leeds yesterday accused a fellow Filipina who claims that her son is the peer's true heir of "trying to stir up trouble".

Jinna Sabiaga, aged 26, flew into Britain from the Philippines with her year-old son Daniel, who has been acknowledged as the heir by the executor of the will and trustee of the estate.

As they arrived, Editha Ruben, who seeks the title, and property in London, Spain and the Philippines, on behalf of her son Andrew, aged 3½, took her claim to magistrates in Manila. She claims the wayward aristocrat had married two other women without divorcing her.

Daniel's mother, who is in Britain to attend to family business after the death of Lord Moynihan in November, said: "The baby does not really know what is going on, but he seems to like having lot of people round him."

Before leaving Manila, she said: "The dream of his father, and of myself, is to see our son speaking in the House of Lords. He must learn the culture, the traditions of Britain. We have to educate Daniel to become a proper Englishman."

Charles Vance, executor and uncle to the peer's offspring, maintains that earlier marriages were properly ended and that the couple were married, making Daniel the lawful successor.

Hurdles to climb, page 5

LIFE & TIMES

The new Life & Times section today offers expanded coverage of the arts, topical features about women, the media and property.

AT WORK

Next week **Elizabeth R**, the most ambitious documentary about the Queen's working life for 23 years, is televised by the BBC. A zestful, witty and self-effacing monarch emerges

AT PEACE?

Captain **JoAnn Conley**, separated from her daughter, was the most pictured woman soldier of the 34,000 in the Gulf war. Many are still living in the shadow of the conflict

AT ODDS

"A proper democracy should not allow such built-in bias." **Roy Hattersley** attacks the newspapers that blatantly support the Tories

Bush's key speech hit by tax hitch

FROM PETER STOTHARD IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush was last night preparing to deliver one of the most crucial speeches of his political career — the State of the Union address — which also launches his re-election campaign. Dubbed "Operation Domestic Storm", the speech is believed to centre on economic issues.

But hopes for a smooth run-up to this key occasion were upset by an inter-Republican row over health-care taxes, which could mean a divisive debate within the party. Presses printing the budget had to be stopped after conservative Republicans objected to a new tax plan for the health-care benefits of top salaried workers.

With the latest polls showing only 43 per cent approval for Mr Bush, and only 19 per cent believing that Republicans would produce a comprehensive health service, the argument came at the worst possible moment. The speech was expected to contain a mixture of policies designed to stimulate the economy, including tax credits for new home buyers and an end to the so-called luxury tax on yachts and cars.

There is also more spending proposed for pre-school education, and on food programmes for poor children.

President's prose, page 10
Letters, page 11

Palestinians' boycott leaves peace talks close to collapse

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Moscow round of the Middle East peace conference, already close to failure, threatened to collapse entirely yesterday when the Palestinian delegation refused to take part after an argument with Israel about the composition of the Palestinian team.

Other Arab delegations, including Saudi Arabia, held talks with Israel, but David Levy, the Israeli foreign minister, accused the Palestinians of trying to "sneak the PLO" into the talks by insisting on the inclusion of exiled Palestinians. He said Israel would walk out today if Palestinians from the diaspora entered the talks. "The peace process is a structure," Mr Levy said. "If you pull out one brick, it will collapse."

The Palestinian delegation stayed away after all-night talks had failed to resolve a dispute about its composition and the conference board, which had said that a joint Palestinian-Jordanian would attend, was hastily removed and replaced with a handwritten sign for the Jordanian delegates alone.

Russian and American co-sponsors each aired their displeasure. James Baker, the American Secretary of State, said: "We believe the Palestinians are making a mistake by not taking advantage of this opportunity." He indicated, however, that Washington was sympathetic to the inclusion of Palestinian exiles.

American representatives were working hard behind the scenes last night to produce an acceptable compromise that would allow the talks in working groups, which begin today, to go ahead. However, Israel's repeated demand that there could be no broadening of the Palestinian delegation made this unlikely.

The Palestinians had earlier insisted that all, or none, of the delegates who had come to Moscow should take part in the opening session. Their decision, in apparent contravention of the terms

Continued on page 14, col 4

Leading article, page 11

CBI casts gloom on early recovery

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A FURTHER 73,000 manufacturing workers are expected to lose jobs in the first quarter of this year, the Confederation of British Industry warned members yesterday.

The confederation's economists estimated that 65,000 manufacturing jobs were lost in the final quarter of 1991, bringing to 300,000 the number of manufacturing workers who lost their jobs during the year.

The forecast accompanied a bleak quarterly industrial trends survey by the confederation, which reduced hopes of an early economic recovery. As if to underline the point the confederation was making National Power, the bigger of the two privatised electricity generating companies, said about 9,000 workers at 35 power stations had been told of large-scale job cuts being planned.

Sir Brian Corby, the confederation president, acknowledged that it had been over-optimistic in seeking positive signs from earlier surveys. "We clearly expected things to be looking rather better now than they are." He called for measures in the Budget to encourage companies to invest.

The gloomy results from the survey, the last detailed assessment of the state of manufacturing from the federation before the election, provide scant comfort for the government. Last year Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had placed more faith in such studies.

Confidence loss, page 15
Mortgage drop, page 17

Hospital doctors' pay to be tied to workload

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government intends to introduce performance-related pay for 50,000 hospital doctors next year as part of its drive to devolve pay bargaining throughout the national health service.

Health department officials have sent a note to the doctors' and dentists' pay review body asking them to consider bonus payments for doctors for clinical excellence and efficient use of resources. Doctors could earn extra pay for treating more patients, cutting waiting lists, working longer hours and meeting national health targets which are to be spelt out in a white paper next month.

The scheme is expected to cover 21,000 consultants and 29,000 junior doctors. GPs will not be included: their pay is already linked to performance through the contracts

Continued on page 14, col 1

Defiant Clinton embraces spirit of the Alamo

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

GOVERNOR Bill Clinton yesterday turned on the media for its "trash for cash mentality" after a tearful Gennifer Flowers appeared at a New York press conference to support her claims of having been the Democratic frontrunner's lover for more than 12 years.

Vowing to forge ahead with his campaign for the White House, a defiant Mr Clinton chose the city of the Alamo to make his spirited counter-attack, hoping that it would not prove to be his last stand. He challenged the national media to drop the story. He had taken his own character test, he said; now the media had to face one. An overnight poll for ABC television showed that 80 per cent of Americans agreed, saying he should not withdraw from the presidential race. Only 10 per cent said his conduct would change their votes.

Beneath a dark and foreboding sky, but looking looking confident and resolute, the Arkansas governor said that he had said all he was going to say about the allegations, and now he was "going back to my campaign and what I believe in". He would let the American people be the arbiters of his personal conduct.

"There's no end to the people who will say anything if the money is right," he said, referring to Ms Flowers's revelations in the gossip magazine, the *Star*. The Clinton camp had hoped that his candid appearance with his wife, Hillary, on prime-time news on Sunday night would put paid to the scandal. But Ms Flowers's equally public television denunciation of his conduct has dashed those hopes.

A scrum of television crews and journalists gathered yesterday at a fund-raising breakfast here that normally would have attracted no more than a couple of local reporters. Mr Clinton talked adamantly about the free trade agreement with Mexico, energy policy and other Texan issues, but the press returned repeatedly to Ms Flowers.

Having campaigned in Louisiana and Mississippi on Monday, Mr Clinton was swinging through Texas yesterday to collect endorsements and raise money in preparation for Super Tuesday, the set of key southern primaries on March 10 where he had been expected to wrap up the Democratic nomination. Whether he will still be in the race by then is a moot point, depending largely on next month's New Hampshire primary, which has become a referendum on his personal behaviour.

He is a man desperate to return to politics but caught on the barbed wire of a story that will not die. The plus side is

Continued on page 14, col 2

Blonde ambition, page 7
Leading article, page 11

Flowers: in tears after her press conference

WE DIDN'T SAVE THEM FROM POACHERS JUST TO HAVE THEM CARVED UP BY POLITICIANS

In 1992, 8,000 elephants will be shot by Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa for their skins and ivory.

The UK Government may support their plan to allow the sale of the skins on the international market. That means overturning the international ban on trade in elephant products.

Two years ago before the international ban was passed, 100,000 elephants were being killed every year. Poaching has declined dramatically since the ban.

The ban is now in serious danger of being weakened and thousands of elephants face extermination.

If you oppose killing elephants for their skins or their ivory, please join our campaign today.

If you think live elephants are priceless, help us to ensure that dead elephants are worthless.

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Ahern may use Irish budget platform to launch challenge

Ahern: nervous about entering the race

By Edward Gorman
Ireland Correspondent

BERTIE Ahern, the unexpected favourite in the race to succeed Charles Haughey as Irish prime minister, will deliver in the Dáil today his first and perhaps only budget.

With the turmoil over the leadership of Fianna Fáil as a backdrop, Mr Ahern's supporters believe that the exposure he will get today will provide a perfect launch pad for the challenge for the premiership.

Mr Ahern, aged 40, has yet to declare himself as a candidate. He is also known to be nervous about putting himself forward because of his relative lack of experience and separation from his wife.

It is still possible that in spite of pressure on him to run from Haughey loyalists, he will adhere to his original intention and support Albert Reynolds, his predecessor at the finance ministry, who was dismissed after joining a failed attempt to oust Mr Haughey in the autumn.

Mr Ahern and Mr Reynolds will meet tomorrow to discuss the leadership, after a meeting of the Fianna Fáil parliamentary party at which Mr Haughey is expected for the first time to disclose his timetable for stepping down. The outcome of the meeting will be decisive. If Mr Ahern supports Mr Reynolds then the latter will almost certainly become the next party leader. If he does not, analysts predict a close race between the two with Mr Ahern the likely winner.

Today's budget will be another tight budget as the government continues its drive to reduce huge debt that was built up during the high spending late Seventies and early Eighties. The debt ratio has already been cut back from about 130 per cenr of GNP in 1987 to under 110 per cent now, and the government is aiming to get it down to 100 per cent by next year. However, tight management of the public finances is expected to be offset by a measure of tax reform and tax reductions, something on which the Progressive Democrats, the government's coalition partners, are insisting as part of their strategy to create jobs.

Taxpayers face a complex tiered system with a top rate of 52 per cent, an intermediate rate of 48 per cent and a standard rate of 29 per cent. The higher thresholds are reached quickly and it is possible, for example, for a single person to pay 52 per cent on an annual income as low as £13,000. Mr Ahern is expected to take steps towards merging the two higher rates by reducing the top rate by 2p or more. He will also cut 2p off the standard rate and offset the effects on the exchequer by reducing or abolishing some corporate and private tax shelters.

At present, Ireland has an unemployment rate of 20 per cent, the highest in the EC. The country also has a serious immigration problem and a relatively low standard of living — about equal to Spain at 70 per cent of the average GNP for the EC.

However, while public services continue to be eroded due to the squeeze on public finances, the outlook is not entirely bleak. The economic and research institute in Dublin predicted that growth of 2 per cent last year will show a slight improvement this year to 2½ per cent.

● The Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast faced escalating strike action last night after several hundred workers walked out in a dispute over shift work and payments. Talks between management and unions failed to resolve the dispute and the striking outfitters said they would stay out until next week.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 10

Patten rules out instant action on poll tax law

By Douglas Broom
Local Government Correspondent

THE government last night refused to take immediate action to close a legal loophole which threatens to stop councils taking poll tax defaulters to court.

John Patten, the Home Office minister, told local authority leaders that the government would not introduce emergency legislation to enable councils to use computer records as evidence of non-payment. He said ministers believed that an amendment to the local government Finance Bill, announced on Monday by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, will be sufficient.

Local authority leaders said that they would have to wait until mid-March for the amendment to come into force and issued a warning that in the meantime it would be impossible to take legal action against people who refused to pay the poll tax. Jeremy Beecham, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said the delay would cost poll tax payers £3 million a week in interest charges on money councils would have to borrow to make up for the income that they would otherwise of collected through the courts.

More than 20,000 poll tax cases have been halted in the past fortnight after rulings by magistrates in Suffolk and London that computer records were not admissible as evidence of non-payment. More than 100,000 cases are due to go before the courts every week between now and the end of March and councils fear that the majority will either be adjourned or thrown out pending the introduction of the new legal provisions.

Conservative-controlled Kensington and Chelsea council in west London said last night that it would not issue any more poll tax summonses until the law was clarified. Anti-poll tax groups said they would raise the evidence issue at every opportunity.

Mr Patten's blunt statement that the government believed it had done enough was greeted with dismay and anger by the local government leaders he met in London last night. Margaret Hodge, Labour leader of Islington council and vice-chairman of the Metropolitan Authorities, said: "This is an unholy mess that has been created by the government and they should be acting now to clear it up.

"Instead we are faced with six weeks of uncertainty and a question mark has been raised over the seven and a half million court orders which have already been granted."

Lady Ellzabeth Anson, Conservative chairman of the Association of District Councils, said: "At the very least we think the government should backdate the operation of the new amendment until midnight tonight to send a clear signal that it is serious about helping us collect the community charge."

She said councils remained concerned that liability orders already granted would be opened to challenge although Mr Patten had said that his advisors thought they would not be.

The Home Office refused to comment. "The points they raised were deemed to be matters for the environment department."

Poll tax protester jailed for contempt

By Kerry Gill

TOMMY Sheridan, leader of the anti-poll tax federation, was yesterday jailed for six months for defying a court order banning him from attending Scotland's first warrant sale for a community charge debt in Glasgow.

Sheridan, aged 27, had ripped up a piece of paper in front of demonstrators in October, saying that that was what the authorities could do with the interdict, the Court of Session, Scotland's supreme civil court, was told yesterday. Lord Caplan told him: "In a democratic society it is the rule of law which shields it from anarchy and mob rule."

Lord Caplan said Sheridan had flouted the court order. "In a democratic society such as ours many forms of political protest are available but ignoring court orders and ignoring sheriff officers are not among their number," he said. The order had been granted to the officers who were preparing to sell off goods belonging to a Port Glasgow woman to recover the debt.

When sentenced, Sheridan, who ran a long campaign against the tax, gave a thumbs up sign to his supporters in the back of the court.

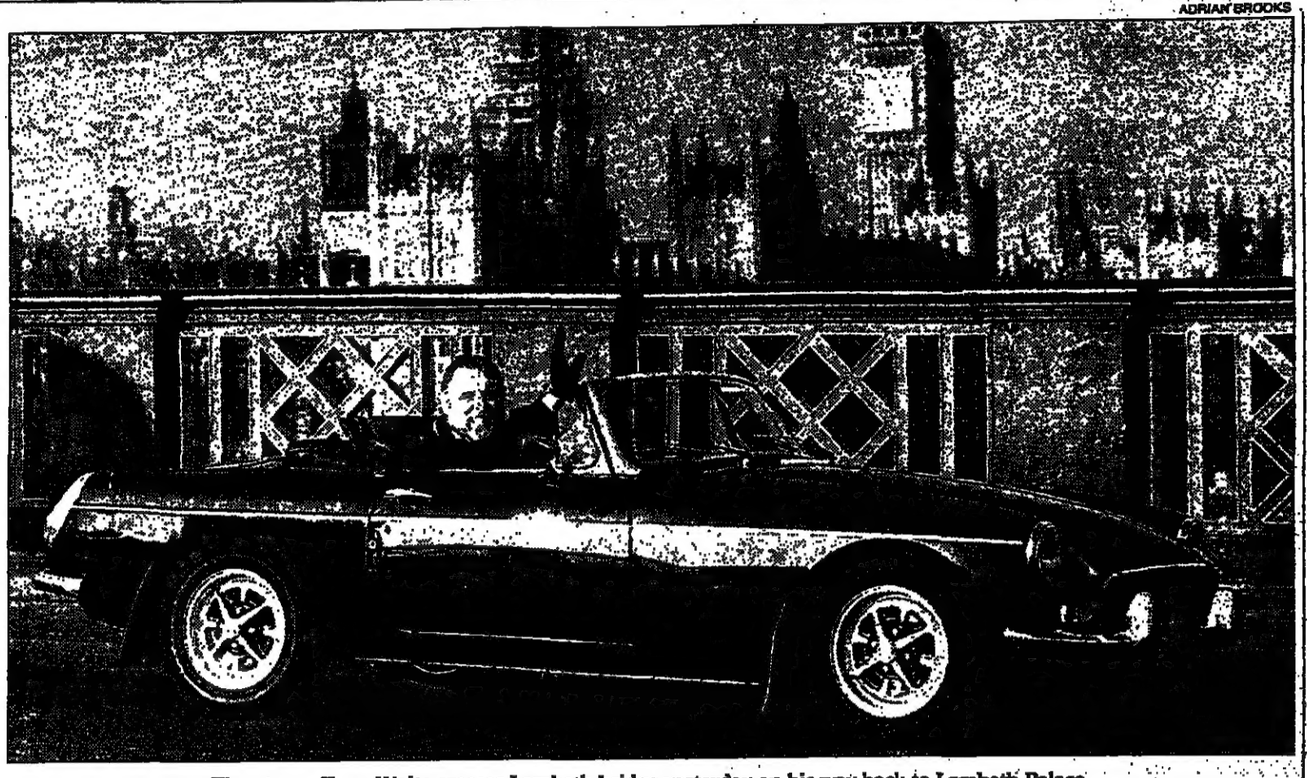
His mother, Alice Sheridan, shouted: "God go with you. I am proud to be your mother." Later she said: "All he did was to tear up a piece of paper in defence of the poor."

The court was told that two sheriff officers were trapped in their van when the sale was supposed to take place and the sale had to be cancelled. About 250 protesters joined in the mêlée on October 1. A policeman told one of the officers that nobody would be killed but he could not guarantee that nobody would be hurt, the court was told.

Sheridan denied defying the interdict and said that he had not shown contempt for the court. Sheridan, an honours graduate from Stirling University, said he attended the demonstration in a personal capacity.

Lord Caplan said the sentence would have been longer if Sheridan had taken part in any of the violence.

ADRIAN BROOKS



Time to go: Terry Waite crosses Lambeth bridge yesterday on his way back to Lambeth Palace

Terry Waite is reunited with his pride and joy

By Jamie Dettmer

FREEDOM is an MGB sports car. Freedom is also being able to drive round the piazza in London's Covent Garden with a tax disc five years out of date and not be stopped by the police. But then if you are Terry Waite, you can do pretty much what you like.

In what Mr Waite called "a rather happy morning after a rather difficult five years", the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy was reunited with his "pride and joy", a blue, 1971 MGB. The car had been left deteriorating in the garage throughout Mr Waite's 1,763 days of captivity. But yesterday after a free restoration by the MG Car Club and assorted garages it stood gleaming in Covent Garden.

"It's good to see her again," Mr Waite said. "It looks marvellous. I'm quite overwhelmed. When I was in captivity and particularly the years in which I was in isolation, I thought of the things I should have done," he said. "I shouldn't have left the handbrake on." The handbrake had seized.

In all, the car needed £5,000 worth of work. Mr Waite thanked the car club for using the handing over of the MGB to start a fund-raising project for Y Care, the YMCA's world development charity. Wearing the campaign's "Freedom is an MGB" T-shirt, Mr Waite praised the charity for its vocational training work with young people in Lebanon.

Clubs to be monitored for race bias

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THOUSANDS of working men's clubs are to have their membership monitored by race equality units as part of a drive to persaude them to open their doors to more black people.

Clubs in areas where a large number of ethnic minorities live are expected to be targeted after the Birmingham county court ruling which found an all-white working men's club guilty of indirect racial discrimination by insisting that new members be proposed and seconded by existing members.

The Home Office said yesterday that, although many clubs acted within the conditions of the 1964 Licensing Act, the operation of their rules contravened the 1976 Race Relations Act, which outlawed direct and indirect discrimination. Members of race relations organisation claim that admission rules can effectively act as a colour bar.

The Birmingham club's admission policy is similar to one laid down for the 3,500 affiliated clubs of The Working Men's Clubs and Institute Union (CIU). Jack Johnson, general secretary of the union, said that the rules were designed to protect the nature and character of a club and to give existing members a say in who should be accepted for membership. He said that the union would not condone any club using the rules to distinguish between people on grounds of colour.

Peter Oteng, a social policy officer with the Commission for Racial Equality, said: "We want clubs to examine their existing membership and then examine their catchment areas. If it is a multi-racial area and the members of the club are all white, we will suggest that the club re-examine its admissions policy."

Mr Oteng said that in carrying out its investigation of the Handsworth Horticultural Institute in Birmingham, the commission had found at least 31 people who had tried and failed to join the institute and that, during tests, two black people claimed that doormen had made racially derogatory remarks to them.

Yesterday the institute's solicitors refused to comment on the case. It faces a legal bill of up to £15,000 and must allow the commission to examine its admission for the next five years.

Minstrels show a whiter side

By David Young

THE FAMOUS Black and White Minstrels have adopted a guise more in harmony with the racially sensitive times. A council's race relations policy has led to their metamorphosis as the White and White Minstrels.

The stars were told they could not black up their faces or give themselves the usual billing. The show at Rotherham Civic Theatre, South Yorkshire, starring three of the original line-up and running until tonight, has been billed as "The Magic Of the Minstrels".

The decision by the Labour-controlled council left theatre-goers puzzled and disappointed. "How can you have the white and white minstrel show? The performers were marvellous, but it spoiled the magic," one of the audience said yesterday.

Jeremy Blundell, the council's principal arts officer, said yesterday: "Realising the sensitive nature of race relations we asked them if they intended to black up or be billed as the Black and White Minstrels. They told us that it was not necessary to black up their faces and that the show would be advertised as 'The Magic of the Minstrels' and we were happy with that."

Peter Foot, the show's agent and producer, said: "We have been touring the show for 12 years and we have never had any complaints. I cannot recall anyone ever asking us not to black up before."

Slip-ups found on ferries

By Sheila Gunn
Political Correspondent

ACTION by the transport department was demanded yesterday after the discovery of safety defects on passenger ferries and ships during a series of spot checks.

Sir John Bourn, head of the National Audit Office, criticised delays in introducing safety improvements recommended by enquiries into the Herald of Free Enterprise and Marchioness disasters. After spot checks made between 1989 and 1991 by audit office officials, Sir John said that the defects "could in practice have had a serious impact on the survivability of passengers in the event of an accident".

In 28 inspections, officials found a lack of lifejackers at muster stations and that on one British vessel nobody on the bridge was watching the monitor showing the state of bow doors on a crossing. The inspectors also discovered serious inadequacies in the ability of crews on two vessels to operate lifeboats.

Child abducted after lawyer gave passport to father

The mother: Penny Cracknell, with her baby, Alexander. She had always feared abduction

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

A SOLICITOR has been ordered before a judge todayto explain why she surrended a passport to an estranged father in breach of a court order, enabling him to abduct his year-old son and take him to Yugoslavia.

The father, Ivo Zaharievski, a Yugoslav surgeon, seized the child, Alexander, during an access visit last week.

His solicitor, Marlene Mortimore-Jones, based in Widnes, Cheshire, returned the passport at his request, despite a court order that he could visit the child only if he surrendered his passport.

The mother, Dr Penelope Cracknell, from Liverpool, flew immediately to Yugoslavia to try to find the child. Mrs Mortimore-Jones was not available for comment yesterday. Stephen Evans, a legal executive with a Liverpool firm, acting for Dr Cracknell, said: "I can think of no reason why the passport should have been handed back. There was a court order that the father surrender it to his solicitor, and the father had not been released from that undertaking."

Mr Evans said that he had obtained a court order that the child be returned immediately to United Kingdom jurisdiction. Mrs Mortimore-Jones was ordered to come to court to explain why she released the passport. A colleague of Dr Cracknell, Dr Robert Barnett, said that the abduction had "realised the mother's worst nightmare". She had always feared abduction, and that was why the court order on the passport had been made.

Dr Cracknell was separated from Mr Zaharievski five months ago. The court order allowing access was varied in December to allow one whole day and one half day access. Today Dr Cracknell, who flew to Yugoslavia with her father, the Rev Kenneth Cracknell, is due to meet the Macedonia justice minister.

Yugoslavia is a recent signatory to the Hague Convention on child abduction under which countries cooperate to secure the return of abducted children, but cannot yet operate the scheme.

The Lord Chancellor's department, the UK's central administration for child abductions, said they had put Dr Cracknell in touch with an English-speaking lawyer. "The aim, when the child is found, is to come to some voluntary agreement," a spokesman said. "But if not, she will have to make an application to the courts for the child to be returned home."

Ivo Zaharievski took son to Yugoslavia

Queen blocks fountain project

The Queen has blocked plans for a spectacular £2 million fountain in Parliament Square commemorating 40 years of her reign, it was disclosed last night. Her intervention was made because she did not want the public to pay for the celebrations in a time of recession.

The Fountain Society said it had postponed the launch of a fundraising appeal. "Her Majesty has asked that there be no major fund-raising in connection with the celebration of the 40th anniversary," it said.

Filming the Queen, L&T, page 1

No prosecution on MP's death

An enquiry into the death in July 1990 of Michael Carr, Labour MP for Bootle, who had a heart attack 15 minutes after being released from hospital, did not find sufficient evidence for a manslaughter prosecution, the Crown Prosecution Service said yesterday.

The Director of Public Prosecutions ordered a police investigation last June into the death after Roy Barter, Merseyside coroner, adjourned the inquest and referred the case to him. The CPS said yesterday that the decision would be reconsidered if any new evidence came to light.

Fog causes road mayhem

Widespread and dense freezing fog brought road deaths and injuries for the second day running yesterday. The M62 was closed in Humberside after a series of multiple accidents injured 19 people.

Six people were slightly hurt in a 20-car crash at Harthill on the M8 between Glasgow and Edinburgh. The eastbound carriageway was closed and a two-mile tailback formed on the westbound carriageway.

Forecast, page 14
Sport hit, page 26

Travel dispute is resolved

Lunn Poly, Britain's biggest travel agents, backed down last night in the confrontation with rivals Pickfords and agreed to display brochures from seven tour operators which it had earlier banned from its shelves.

Pickfords had threatened legal action against Lunn Poly for refusing to show brochures from companies which had agreed to take a cut in profits to enable Pickfords to offer "double discounts" on thousands of holidays. Lunn Poly argued that it was following normal commercial practice.

Playing safe

Guidelines for safety in playgrounds were launched yesterday by Robert Atkins, the education minister. Playground surfaces, equipment, maintenance and siting are covered in recommendations designed for local authorities. In 1989, the last year for which figures were collected, there were 53,000 reported accidents in unsupervised playgrounds. The guidelines emphasise the importance of lay-out.

Band Aid ends

Band Aid, the charity set up seven years ago by Bob Geldof, is being wound up, according to his solicitor, John Kennedy of Paddington, west London. The charity put £110 million into emergency and long-term development work, with administration costs accounting for less than two per cent.

Design award

The Broadgate office development in the City of London, designed by Arup Associates, has been chosen as the Building of the Year by the president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Richard MacCormac. The award is given specifically for phases 1-4 of the development, including the central circular piazza, which serves as an ice-rink in winter and an open-air theatre in summer.

Mann on mend

Jack Mann, the former hostage who is recovering from pneumonia in a British military hospital in Cyprus, was in "top form" yesterday on his first day without oxygen and hopes to be out of hospital by the end of next week, a family friend said. Mr Mann, aged 77, was admitted on January 12. His wife, Sunnie, says that he is on the road to recovery, adding: "I can't wait to have him back."

Lie detector woman awarded £220,000 for back injuries

BY CRAIG SETON

A JUDGE who awarded an injured woman more than £220,000 damages said yesterday that the findings of a spinal "lie detector" had not influenced his decision.

The case of Annette Durrant, aged 34, from Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, was the first time that a British court had heard the result of tests carried out on an Isostation B200, an American-made orthopaedic machine said by its British operators to expose malingerers or confirm genuine injury.

Mrs Durrant had presented evidence from the device to show that she was not exaggerating the injuries she received when she was in an accident with a car while riding a horse in 1987. The court was told that she had been transformed from a healthy, sporting person to a virtual cripple. The driver of the car admitted liability, but contested the damages of up to £250,000 that she claimed.

At the High Court in Birmingham yesterday, Mr Justice Judge, in a reserved judgment, said that as he was convinced she suffered the pain she had described he had not needed to take account of the Isostation's findings. He awarded Mrs Durrant £226,438 damages, including interest.

He said: "Considerable claims were made on behalf of the machine. It was suggested the machine cannot lie and cannot be deceived; therefore the machine will not only expose the malingerer, but provide independent support for anyone suffering a genuine back complaint.

"The machine itself is not on trial in this litigation because no-one has suggested she is a malingerer. Therefore the success or failure of her claim does not depend on this machine or its results. My judgment of Mrs Durrant's credibility was not influenced by the results of this machine." He added: "The machine seems to be a useful piece of equipment which provides help for those with lumbar spinal problems."

Afterwards Hugo Kitchen, an orthopaedic physician who runs a clinic at Stratford-upon-Avon with his brother James and owns the franchise for the machine in Britain, said that he was not downhearted. "The machine was not the only evidence to support her case," he said, "but to me it confirmed our own clinical suspicions about her injuries and in my opinion the machine's evidence was vindicated."

Dr Kitchen said the machine had been used for ten years in America, where most claims were now settled out of court. Although it was the first time the Isostation had been involved in a British court, "I definitely do not think it will be the last".

Mrs Durrant said she was delighted with her award and would be able to buy more aids to improve her life. She said: "I am relieved it is all over. The machine was very helpful and could be useful to a lot more people in future." She had told the court she was in constant pain and that her injuries led to the break-up of her marriage. She would never be able to work again, suffered dizzy spells and could walk only a short distance with the aid of a stick. Paul Drew, her solicitor, said yesterday that the Isostation had reinforced the judge's view of Mrs Durrant as a frank and honest witness and he believed the machine would be used extensively by the medical profession.

Mrs Durrant had claimed damages from the insurers of the car driver, Alexander McDonald, of Coventry. She was awarded special damages of £43,926, general damages of £32,500, and a sum of £11,396 annually for loss of earnings, to be paid for 13 years, totalling £148,152.

The machine has been used in claims in America. The biggest involved a railway worker claiming £300,000 who was awarded £60,000 after the court accepted evidence from the machine.

In constant pain: Mrs Durrant leaving the court after the decision yesterday

Tests remain inconclusive

Scientific opinion on the back pain machine is divided, reports **Nick Nuttall**

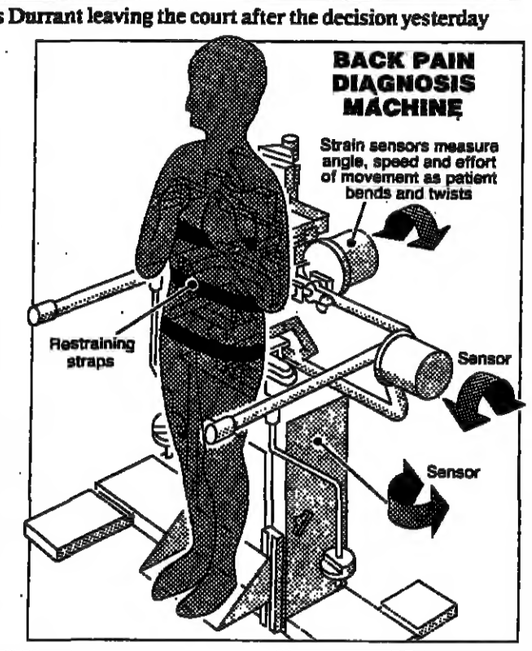
THE controversy surrounding the Isostation B200 remains after yesterday's High Court decision. A legal decision for or against the device's evidence must await another injury case.

Although a novelty in this country, about 600 of the machines are in use in America and the device has been the subject of almost 100 academic papers since its introduction in 1987. Scientific opinion on the machine is divided.

The device has a steel frame, strain gauges and a platform. The patient stands and is strapped to the frame, restricting movement to the lower back. Information on the performance of physical excercises is fed to a computer that analyses the data. The device examines effort, speed and degree of back movement against pre-set forces, which can be adjusted, in six directions of movement simultaneously.

Slight twists or side-to-side movements are also measured, providing, it is claimed, vital clues to the condition of the back. The computer, making adjustments for the patient's age and sex, compares the information with data from hundreds of other subjects to establish whether he has a genuine back problem. Some British experts who have tested the device believe that its usefulness, particularly in court, is in doubt. Chris Oliver, an orthopaedic surgeon at Harrogate district hospital, tested about 80 people at Leeds general infirmary, some of whom were asked to fake back pain.

Mr Oliver said: "They did not make appreciably different recordings to those with genuine back pain . . . I do not think the machine can tell them apart. I can say from the machine that this person makes a normal pattern of movement and this person makes an abnormal one. But the grey area in between, where malingering lies, is undetermined."



Oxford tackles tourist dilemma

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA

FEARS that tourism in Oxford is becoming unmanageable have prompted a study which calls for a co-ordinated policy on how to deal with the millions who have turned the city of dreaming spires into one of teeming tourists.

The survey, commissioned by the Thames & Chiltern tourist board, Oxford city council and its chamber of commerce, shows that the city is the third most popular overnight stop after London and Edinburgh. "Visitors are becoming more and more visible and a policy must be worked out on how to approach them," Clive Matthews, development services manager of the tourist board, said.

Tourism directly supports more than 3,000 jobs in Oxford, but has generated tensions in the community. The university has been beset by vast touring parties invading its quads and noisy open-top buses relaying the history of the town to customers through loudspeakers. Anthony Smith, president of Magdalen College, said that Oxford was falling victim to an unthinking tourist culture. "I object to the way that people are invited to consume institutions such as Oxford rather than understand them," he said.

Michael Campbell-Lamerton, bursar of Balliol College, said: "There has been a fearful increase in the number of visitors and it isn't confined to the summer months now. Tourists today seem less respectful, and they wander into seminar rooms, chapel during services, and hall during meal times."

Mr Matthews said: "We've met bursars and some of them say that their colleges are academic establishments and not for visitors. But if we can identify those colleges that want to let tourists in, such as Christ Church, we can steer visitors away from those that don't want them."

Greater access to "park and ride" facilities and tourist information would reduce congestion in the city centre and please colleges alarmed by the growth of the tourist trade, he said. Banning traffic from the city centre was also being discussed.

Composer takes new dig at Webber

BY SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

MALCOLM Williamson, the Master of the Queen's Musick, has again attacked Andrew Lloyd Webber's work, referring to it as "absolutely fatuous".

Last week it was suggested that instead of music by the official royal composer, work by the creator of *Cats* and *The Phantom of the Opera* had been chosen for a pageant, at Earls Court in October, to mark the 40th anniversary of the Queen's accession, and Mr Williamson said: "Lloyd Webber's music is everywhere, but so is Aids."

The event's organiser denied inviting or snubbing either composer, but in a discussion on BBC2's *Behind the Headlines*, to be broadcast today, Mr Williamson takes the onslaught further, this time including the sovereign herself.

Williamson: critical of *Cats* writer's work

Mr Williamson describes the Queen as a discerning music lover and suggests that listening to the Lloyd Webber music will leave her mind free to contemplate the next day's schedule. "She will offer a silent prayer to God that she is not obliged to extend her very considerable intellect to concentrating too hard on something absolutely fatuous," he says.

Mr Williamson also says Mr Lloyd Webber's music is "extremely poor melodically, and harmonically is extremely crude", and adds: "He fails to touch emotion, and he has used every meretricious trick from Jesus Christ downward to make a fast buck."

Pilots killed when RAF jet crashed into light plane

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

A LIGHT aircraft whose pilot was taking photographs of a Welsh village was hit from behind by an RAF Jaguar on a low flying exercise, an inquest was told yesterday.

The pilot, Robert Cooper, aged 45, died instantly, as did the RAF pilot, Wing Commander John Mardon. The officer had only returned to flying duties recently after a heart-and-lung transplant.

Mr Cooper had not told anyone that he intended to fly low to obtain the best pictures and the RAF crew had no chance of avoiding his Cessna as they flew at 450mph over Carno in Powys. The other RAF crew member, Wing Commander George Pixton, ejected safely.

At the inquest in Carno into the deaths of the two men, Anthony Skinner, senior inspector with the transport department's air accident investigation branch, said film recovered from the wreckage showed that Mr Cooper, of Wolverhampton, an experienced pilot employed by Skyviews and General, of Leeds, had been taking aerial shots of houses intended for sale later to residents. It was believed that he was either filming from the open left-hand window of his cockpit or looking at the ground to locate further shots when the RAF fighter struck him from behind, killing him instantly.

Mr Cooper, with more than 2,000 flying hours, had not informed any civil or military authorities when he left Halfpenny Green aerodrome, nearly 50 miles from Carno, Mr Skinner said. Gordon Sharp, of the Civil Aviation Authority, said the same Cessna had been reported for alleged breaches of flying regulations in the three months before the collision. Skyviews and General pilots were paid by results, which provided a financial inducement to fly low, he said.

The inquest continues today.

Wing Commander Mardon: the RAF Jaguar pilot who was killed in the collision

Author in publisher's bad books

BY RAY CLANCY

JOHN Healy, a former alcoholic, amateur boxer, convict and now author, has been told by the publisher of his autobiographical novel *Grass Arena* never to darken its doors again. Faber & Faber has accused Mr Healy of a six-month campaign of abuse against its staff.

Mr Healy, who is working on a second novel, has countered that he did not want anything to do with Faber and that he has been using other publishers. "Faber are trying to be the god of the publishing world," he said yesterday. "I really do not know what they are making a fuss about. They have ripped me off in the past and now I do not want anything to do with them." Mr Healy intends to include details of the row in his book.

Robert McCrum, Faber's fiction editor, said: "When he began telephoning female members of staff and being abusive, things came to a head and we contacted the police."

Philip Howard and Diary, page 10

Patients sick of GPs' receptionists

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

LIKE traffic wardens and hospital matrons, doctors' receptionists are the women we love to hate, describing them as middle-aged, bloody minded and bent on preventing patients from seeing their GP.

In the latest survey to confirm this urban myth, published yesterday, patients described them as snooty, grumpy and acting "like SS officers". Others complained of being asked intrusive questions and having problems dicussed in a derogatory manner.

In contrast, more than 90 per cent described their GPs as good listeners and normally good at explanations. They saw the main challenge as getting past the reception desk.

When asked about the standard of help receptionists give patients, only half replied "good". Many found a woman behind a desk with an appointments book, a sharp pencil and a baleful look an intimidating prospect. Fifty four per cent thought the level of privacy when dealing with them was poor. "Receptionists often shout out patients' business," one said. "It is like facing the Spanish Inquisition," said another.

Only 10 per cent of 800 randomly selected patients made specific comments but these were mostly negative. "Rude and snooty" said one, "miserable and grumpy" said another. Several complained that they sought "too much personal information". One compared them with SS officers.

The survey was carried out by the Northumberland Community Health Council, the Family Health Services Authority and local GPs. The authority has already set up a working party to seek improvements based on the findings.

Asked about the survey, Doris Gilhespy, secretary of the Association of Medical Secretaries, said: "Oh dear, oh dear, not that 'dragon at the gate' story again." There were many courses for doctors' receptionists, she said, and GPs were responsible, under the new contract, for seeing their staff were given adequate training. "The big problem is that many people who go to the doctor are ill and anxious and they will always remember the one thing that goes wrong, not the thousands that go right."

Two thirds of patients rated relationships with their doctors as "good", while "fair" was the response from most of the rest. Other findings were that 90 per cent felt surgery hours convenient. 80 per cent thought it reasonable to wait a day for an appointment and 70 per cent expected to be seen within 15 minutes of their appointment time.

Dr Christopher Robinson, the authority chairman, said the level of satisfaction with GPs was higher than elsewhere in Britain and by dealing with the problems they hoped to achieve "the best service in the country".

Friday, December 13,

Winter Weather Wreaks Havoc on Homes

ONCE again, the British weather has taken its toll. The lowest temperatures for years have wreaked havoc with householders across the country. With frozen and burst pipes, failed heating systems and possible flooding, plumbers everywhere are stretched to the limit.

SEVERE WEATHER WARNING

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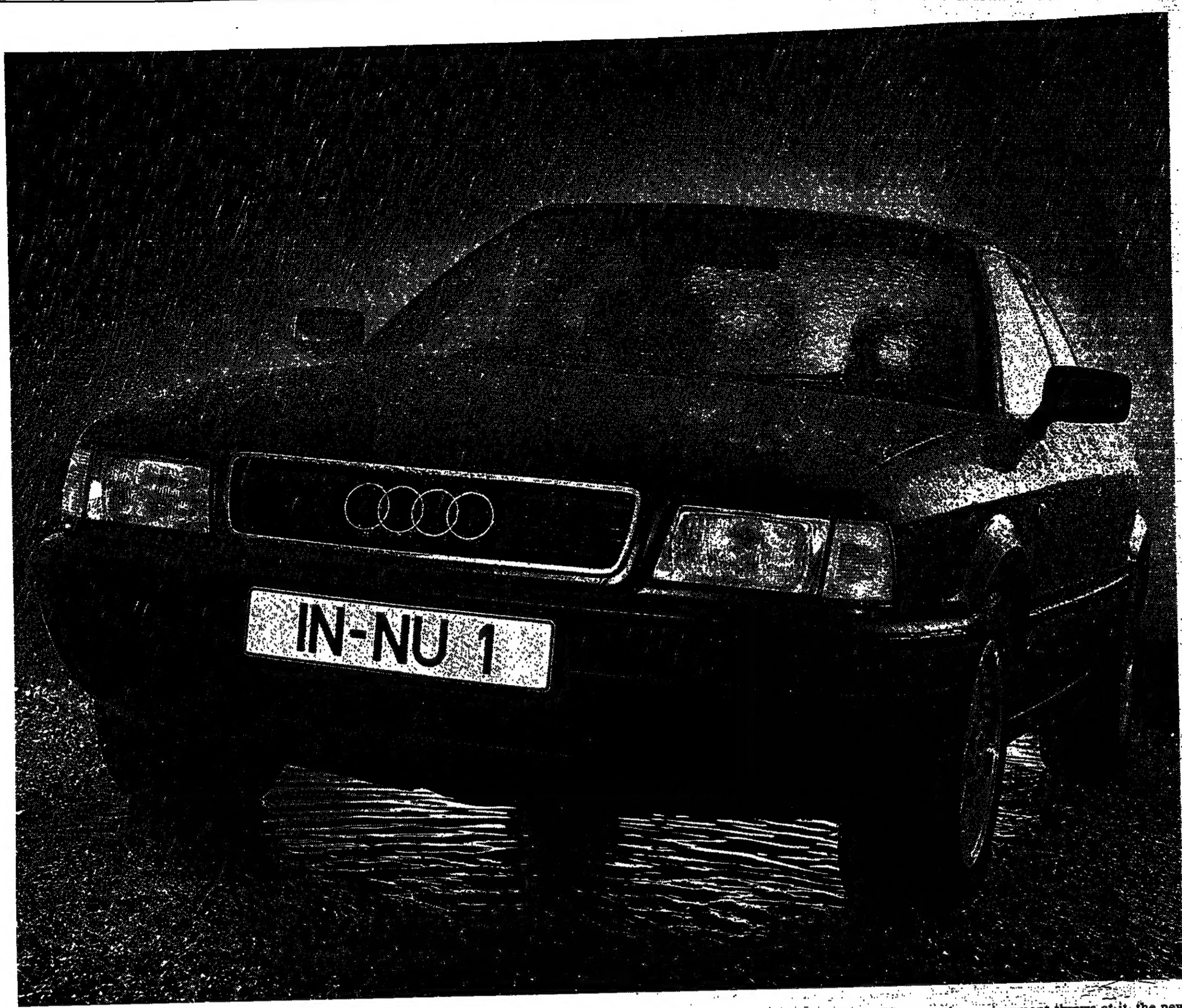

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Clarke to put more teacher training in classrooms

BY JOHN O'LEARY
HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke, the education secretary, yesterday promised to extend his teacher training reforms to include all new entrants to the profession.

The government's original proposals to switch the bulk of training from universities and colleges to schools affected only graduates going into secondary teaching. When the scheme was outlined in detail yesterday, however, Mr Clarke widened the principle to include undergraduates taking BEd courses. As well as considering cutting the length of BEd courses from four years to three, Mr Clarke is proposing that at least a quarter of existing courses should take place in schools.

He has asked the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education to draw up similar guidelines for trainees going into primary schools, after reserving judgment until the publication of last week's report on primary school teaching. "I see no reason at all why this should not extend to all teacher training, and it is my intention that it should."

Under Mr Clarke's proposals, student teachers will have to show that they can control a class, master different teaching techniques and fire children's interest with clear, stimulating lessons. All trainees will have to meet at least 20 requirements before being officially declared professionally competent.

These include maintaining the interest and motivation of all children, setting demanding targets, keeping discipline and recognising the diversity of talent in a class. Trainees will have to show that they can spot bright children and cater for their needs. Experienced teachers will take trainees under their wing to show them how to do the job in the classroom.

Mr Clarke said: "I am determined to make teacher training more school-based, with a focus on the competences that teachers need at the start of their careers."

The first of the new courses is due to begin in September. To speed the process, an extra £6 million is being made available to encourage schools to come forward, allowing at least a third of postgraduate trainees to enrol.

Last night, the National Union of Teachers accused the government of rushing into another reform without proper research or consultation. Doug McAvoy, its general secretary, said: "There must be adequate planning and sufficient time for preparation of schools, teachers and institutions to do the job properly."

Private schools fight for status

INDEPENDENT schools published their first election "manifesto" yesterday which only just stopped short of advising parents to vote Conservative (John O'Leary writes).

The manifesto is the opening shot in a £100,000 pre-election campaign designed to stave off an attempt by Labour and the Liberal Democrats to withdraw the schools' charitable status and abolish the assisted places scheme for children from poor families.

David Woodhead, national director of the Independent Schools Information Service, said that the two policies at a time of recession represented as great a danger as the schools had faced when Labour was committed to abolishing them. Mr Woodhead said: "We want parents to realise the consequences of voting for particular parties."

An opinion poll commissioned by the service last year showed 55 per cent of Labour supporters in favour of assisted places. One aim of the campaign will be to see that reflected in party policy.

The independent schools' initiative will include a national newspaper advertising campaign and a debate in London next month on assisted places, involving all three main parties' education spokesmen.

Farmers stick their necks out on ostrich venture

PHILIP DUNN

Francis and Linda Ayres cradling two of the 26 ostrich chicks incubated on their farm near Banbury, Oxfordshire. The couple have invested about £40,000 in an effort to persuade the British consumer that ostrich meat is safe, and healthier and tastier than beef or lamb (Michael Hornsby writes). "The meat has a venison-like flavour and contains fewer calories and less cholesterol," Mr Ayres said. The chicks were hatched early last month from eggs imported from Namibia. The Ayreses say that they have already sold some to breeders in Britain, Ireland and on the Continent, which will be delivered when they are three months old. A pair of birds can produce at least 25 chicks a year and breed for about 40 of their 70 years. There is a market for their feathers and skins. The Ayreses believe that welfare objections can be met by the use of mobile abattoirs that would cut out the need to transport the birds long distances to slaughterhouses. They have coined the name "volaise" for the meat. The agriculture ministry is expected to classify it more prosaically as "farmed game".

Churned up by vanishing milk board

The Milk Marketing Board's decision to wind itself up may be good for consumers, but **Michael Hornsby** finds dairy farmers viewing the prospect with mixed feelings

MORE than the biting January wind may have brought a tear to the eyes of dairy farmers yesterday as they contemplated the possibility of life without the maternal protection of the Milk Marketing Board.

Admittedly, the crusty old dinosaur — a statutory body with the sole right to buy and supply milk in England and Wales since 1933 — has been an unconscionable time a-dying and may yet succeed in retaining many of its functions and powers by metamorphosing into a voluntary co-operative. But in dairy parlours up and down the land there is a pervasive feeling that the old certainties are crumbling.

David Richardson, who combines farming at Great Melton, near Norwich, with a career as an agricultural journalist and broadcaster, accepts that change must come but understands the fears of dairy farmers, particularly of the older generation. He draws on the experience of his father during the 1920s.

"In those days you had no guarantee of selling your milk unless you had a retail contract. Often my father would milk the cows and, because there was no sale for it, my mother would have to make butter and hang it down the well to keep cool. On Friday she would take the bus to the local market and sell the butter for whatever it would fetch, which was not much."

Introduced during the depression of the inter-war years, the board put an end to a century of *laissez-faire* in agricultural policy and was hailed for protecting small farmers against predatory dairy companies. To men like Richardson senior, the change seemed like paradise.

The board guaranteed to collect and buy all milk produced by dairy farmers at a standard "pooled" price. In effect, that meant that dairy farms close to towns subsidised the transport costs of those in remoter rural areas.

The board sold the milk to dairies and processors at a complicated scale of prices fixed according to intended end use. Astonishingly, that cumbersome centralised system has survived for nearly 60 years.

Over that period, the board did much to restore confidence, boost output, enforce quality controls and improve the dairy herd. The rigidities of the system were exposed, however, by the imposition of European Community production quotas in 1984 in an attempt to curb surplus output for which there had previously been a guaranteed outlet. More recently Brussels has also challenged the board's legality.

Britain suddenly found itself short of milk and lumbered with huge over-capacity in the wrong kind of dairy plant. The board had charged dairies an artificially high price for milk for drinking, using the income in part to subsidise the cheap production of butter, cheese and skimmed milk powder, much of which went straight into the EC's cold stores.

Enterprising dairies and processors who wanted to exploit the growing consumer market for yoghurts and speciality cheeses found difficulty in getting supplies of milk from the board.

Stephen Hall, who runs a dairy herd and processing plant at Pinner, northwest London, was dry-eyed yesterday. He is secretary of Independent Milk Producers and Processors, which was formed last year in anticipation of a freer market. "At present, even if I want to supply my own milk to my own plant, I have to sell it first to the board at 19p a litre and then buy it back at 24p. It is a ludicrous situation."

The board hopes that 80 per cent or more of farmers will join the new co-operative. But the big dairy companies, claiming they can pay farmers a better price, are already offering tempting contracts to groups of suppliers. That could mean cheaper milk and a wider range of dairy products in the shops.

Woman ordered to quell sex noise

A woman was bound over in the sum of £100 and issued with a noise abatement order by Portmouth magistrates yesterday after neighbours complained about the noise of her sexual activities.

Denise Conway and Sylvia Rowe took out a private prosecution against Linda Boyce after asking her to make less noise, and complaining to police and the council. The court was told that their lives were disrupted by loud pop music, slamming doors, and the sound of Miss Boyce's lovemaking and sexually intimate telephone calls in the early hours.

Miss Boyce, aged 36, who contested the complaints, said that boyfriends telephoned her at night and that she had the radio on when doing housework.

Victim's father to attend trial

John Ward, whose daughter Julie was murdered on a Kenyan game reserve in September 1988, has been given special dispensation to sit in on the trial in Nairobi next month of the two gamekeepers who are accused of her murder.

Mr Ward, aged 58, faced the possibility of missing the trial because he is a witness. The ruling by Kenya's attorney general means that he will be able to put questions to any of the dozens of witnesses.

Fingers moved

Ben Grundy, aged three, who was born without thumbs, is recovering after surgeons at Frenchay hospital, Bristol, switched his forefingers to where his thumbs would have been. He still needs a bone marrow transplant for a rare blood disorder.

Warm-hearted

The author Catherine Cookson, above, has given £26,000 for a heating system at St Peter's and St Paul's church in South Shields, which she attended as a girl, after hearing that parishioners were so cold that mass was held in the priest's house.

Thief cashes in

A thief who frogmarched a student half a mile at knifepoint to his bank cashpoint machine in Bristol only to find that the account was empty made him return to his digs and beg £25 from his flatmates, which he then stole.

RSC man wins Eye libel case

THE Royal Shakespeare Company's artistic director, Adrian Noble, yesterday accepted substantial libel damages over an article in *Private Eye* which said that he insisted that his girl friend should be cast in several roles in the 1991 season.

The actress, Joanne Pearce, now Mr Noble's wife, was cast on merit and not through the exercise of any pressure by him, his counsel, Andrew Caldecott, told the High Court.

The article, published in the magazine's Grovel column in September 1990, alleged that Mr Noble's conduct led to the resignation of the RSC's casting agent and her assistant.

The allegations were entirely without foundation, Mr Caldecott told Mr Justice Drake. Miss Pearce had appeared in major roles in earlier seasons when Mr Noble, of Islington, north London, was not artistic director.

Jane Phillips, counsel for the *Private Eye*'s editor, Ian Hislop, and the publishers Pressdram, said that they unreservedly withdrew any suggestion that Mr Noble had sought improperly to advance Miss Pearce's career in any way. They apologised for the distress and embarrassment caused and agreed to pay the undisclosed sum of damages and Mr Noble's legal costs.

● Three brothers who own a wholesale butchery business in West Wales accepted substantial libel damages at the High Court in London from the BBC.

Their solicitor said that in October 1990 the BBC programme *Week In, Week Out* accused a customer using an abattoir owned by Thomas, Vivian and John Thomas near Lanelli, Dyfed, of supplying unfit meat. Many viewers understood this to mean that the brothers were dealing in unfit meat and they lost many customers.

Public enquiry opens

Islanders oppose Skye toll bridge

BY KERRY GILL

MORE than 100 objectors to the £24 million Isle of Skye toll bridge crammed into a tiny village hall yesterday to air their concerns at the start of a public enquiry.

Many have waited for a bridge since 1938, when the first design was drawn up only to be dropped because of the second world war. Islanders, incensed that the new bridge will have tolls, feel they could wait another 50 years.

The public benches represented a wide variety of individuals and organisations objecting to the bridge, between Kyle of Lochalsh and Kyleakin, which was chosen last year after what was described as a Europe-wide architectural "beauty contest".

While some believe that the design is beautiful, others, mainly from Skye, do not care whether a bridge is built at all. Others have called for a tunnel, and almost all oppose tolls.

A Scottish Office official disclosed that there were 190 objections, including a petition from 2,100 people protesting about the tolls. The government argued that if tolls matched present ferry charges, users would be no worse off and tolls would eventually be scrapped.

The enquiry, ordered by Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, will hear that many people fear that a bridge will make it easier for thieves to travel to and from Skye, and that it could close during storms and could damage the environment. The Royal Fine Arts Commission for Scotland has called the design, by the Miller group, "objectionably humped backed". Before the hearing began in the Kyle of Lochalsh village hall, Elizabeth Haran, Reporter to the enquiry, said that there had even been letters from people wondering whether there was any point in the enquiry as the contract for the bridge had already been signed.

Alastair Dunlop, QC, for the Scottish Office, emphasised that there were many objections quite apart from those against a bridge. Most of those were concerns over imposing tolls.

He said that if the whole project were scrapped, the Miller group, which signed the contract for the bridge last year, would receive financial compensation.

He said that the level of tolls would depend on the final design of the bridge and the cost of its approaches. "In no way can it be said that the enquiry is academic or has been prejudged by signing the contract."

Each of the objectors was asked to give his or her name and that of any organisation they represented. All the local community councils have objected to tolls.

James Innes, deputy chief road engineer for the Scottish Office, said that the bridge should pay for itself within 12 to 18 years. "The government believes that, by the private sector route, the public will get a free bridge sooner than by waiting for a bridge through the public sector roads programme," he said. If people wanted a publicly funded bridge, they would have to wait until well into the next century.

Jails chief opposes governor uniforms

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE head of the prison service is strongly resisting a proposal for governors to wear uniforms and is pressing instead for less militaristic clothing for all prison staff.

Joe Pilling is also against a recommendation to divide responsibility for overall prison policy and management of the service between a non-executive chairman and a director general.

Both proposals were put forward in a management review of the service by Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo, former chief executive of British Aerospace, who suggested that the service should be given agency status as a way of limiting Home Office interference in its operations.

Mr Pilling, who took over as director general in August, told *The Times* yesterday: "Prison governors have never worn uniform and that is because of the nature of the job, which is about developing interpersonal skills. We are not simply a disciplining organisation designed to put people in their place and keep them there."

Sir Raymond, in his report last month to Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, suggested that making everyone wear a uniform would address the poor morale and sense of disunity said to afflict the prison service. He was highly critical of recent instructions to limit the wearing of caps by prison officers.

Mr Pilling said: "In relation to uniform and the appointment of a non-executive chairman, he is running counter to Lord Justice Woolf's report [into the 1990 prison riots]."

Mr Pilling clearly backs the Woolf report's suggestion that the military aspects of the service be reduced. "There are two ways of moving towards conformity," he said. "There are ways of people dressing in a reasonable standard way which are less like a uniform than the uniform we have at the moment for prison officers."

Such a form of dress would help to bring people together and would highlight to prisoners that staff were in the business of building human relationships.

Sir Raymond recommended that the service become an agency with a prisons board headed by a part-time non-executive chairman, who would be the principal adviser to ministers, and a chief executive responsible for the day-to-day management.

Mr Pilling, however, said that some would see that as a backward step. It was important to bring together in one person responsibility for policy and operations so that nobody could be in any doubt about who was in charge.

Peer's son faces a rough ride to the Lords

Lord Moynihan's heir may be forced to reveal the skeletons in his family cupboard, reports **Sheila Gunn**

TRUSTEES of one-year-old Daniel, reputed to be the 4th Baron Moynihan, may be wasting their time and money in preparing him to take a seat in the Lords in 2012.

It is not so much the threat of a prime minister stripping the hereditary peerage of the right to meddle in the government's affairs that should worry them, but the procedures for taking up the freehold.

Like others before him, the son of the colourful 3rd Lord Moynihan and his fifth wife, Jinna Sabiaga, aged 26, a Filipino massage parlour owner, could be forced to disclose all the skeletons in the family cupboard before a quasi-judicial enquiry.

Since Colin Moynihan, the junior energy minister, is unlikely to challenge the claim, the next hurdle for Daniel is likely to come in 2009. When aged 18 he will find himself unable to vote because he is a peer — and unable to take his seat until he is 21 — and probably facing a claim to the title from his half-brother Andrew.

Andrew would be entitled to apply for a writ of summons to the Lord Chancellor of the day who, with the Home Secretary, will decide if further investigation is needed. Four law lords together with a group of other peers will then be dragooned onto a Committee for Privileges to examine the conflicting claims.

The procedure is expensive, requiring counsel versed in constitutional law, and time-consuming. Such disputes are rare nowadays, mostly involving those claiming a peerage which has fallen into abeyance.

The case of the Russell baby is the closest analogy to the Moynihan claim. After the 3rd Lord Ampthill died in 1973, his son Geoffrey was challenged by his younger half-brother over the title. The question of whether Geoffrey's parents consummated their marriage and allegations of adultery by his mother Christabel were long disputed during the enquiry — and filled many a newspaper column.

Blood tests finally settled the claim in Geoffrey's favour. As the 4th Lord Ampthill, he still sits in the Lords and served as a distinguished chairman of the refreshment committee, albeit with a slight hiccup after a salmonella outbreak in the kitchens in the 1980s. There is solace for Daniel, or Andrew if he is judged to be the legitimate heir, in the knowledge that, once in the Lords, neither would find the merest raising of an eyebrow at their ancestry. A paradoxical equality is practised, with the peers judged solely on their contributions.

Lord Moynihan: dispute over inheritance

The peculiar composition of the upper House can lead, for instance, to speeches in a debate on drugs from a former addict (Lord Mancroft), an ex-detective sergeant (Earl Nelson), a former chief constable of West Midlands (Lord Knights), a past permanent secretary at the Home Office (Lord Allen of Abbeydale) and a recent Home Secretary (Lord Waddington). Transport debates might hear from Lord Marsh, a former British Rail chairman.

Daniel flies in, page 1

Union power at stake in election

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Conservatives unleashed the second string to their electioneering bow yesterday by promising a renewed assault on trade union power if they are returned for a fourth term.

The announcement by Michael Howard, the employment secretary, that the government intends to press ahead with new curbs on strikes and to give union members extra muscle over their leaders drew furious protests from Labour MPs.

Tony Blair, the shadow employment secretary, accused Mr Howard of returning to the agenda of the 1970s because he had no answers to the problems of the 1990s.

Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, intervened on the Opposition's behalf by warning Mr Howard that his reminders of Labour's past denunciations of pre-strike ballots went beyond the scope of his statement on the outcome of consultation on the latest green paper on industrial relations.

Opposition anger at Mr Howard's tactics boiled over with an intervention by Andrew Faulds, Labour MP for Warley East, who protested about abuse of power by the "nastiest man in the government". Mr Weatherill pleaded with MPs to deal with the issue in a "non-party political way", a remark that provoked guffaws from both sides of the House.

Tory backbenchers were clearly delighted at the robust way in which the employment secretary chose to play an issue that party strategists regard as subordinate only to tax and spending. Mr Howard said that a cross-section of employers' organisations had given broad support to a framework of proposals intended to form the sixth big piece of trade union legislation since 1979. The key points are:

☐ A new right for members of the public to seek an injunction against unlawful industrial action affecting a public service.

☐ A seven-day notice period before the start of a strike.

☐ Postal ballots for strikes and an end to decisions being taken by a show of hands in the workplace.

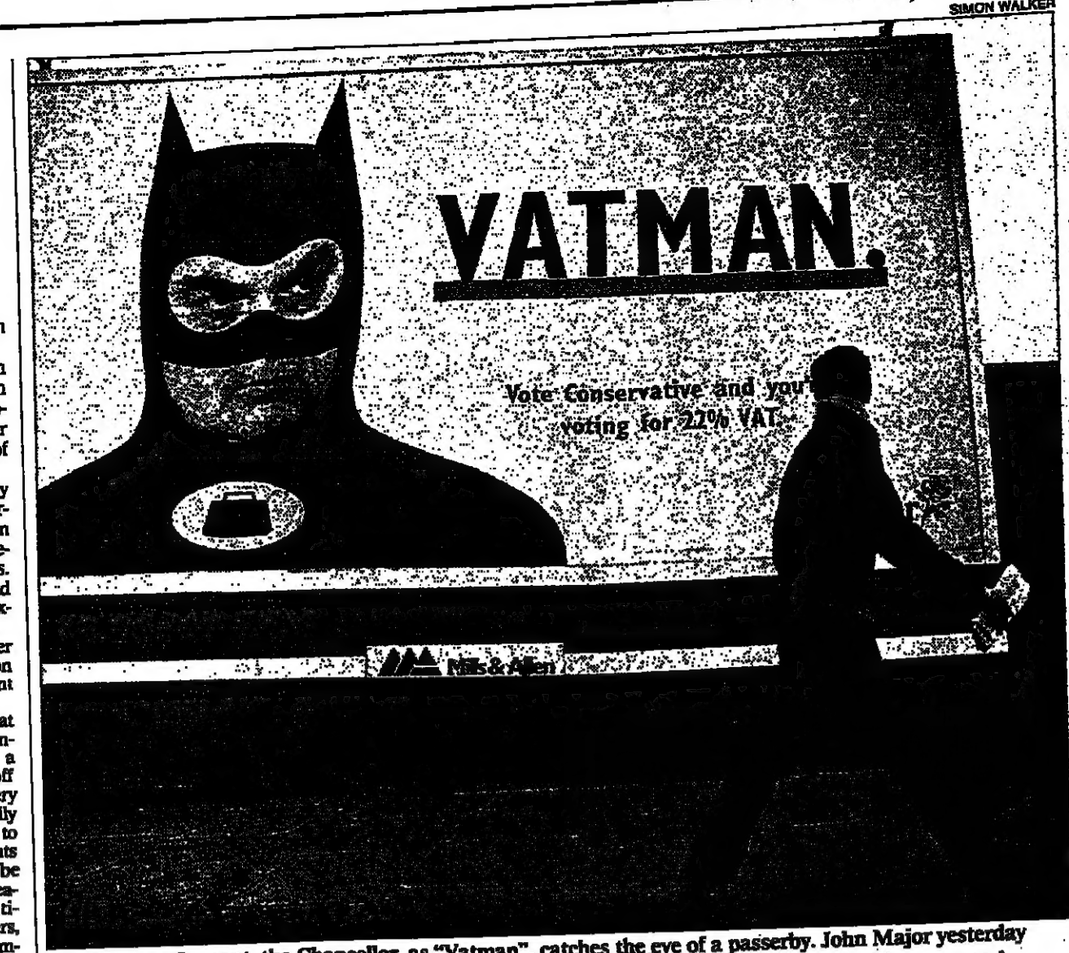
☐ An end to the Bridlington agreement covering union membership and the introduction of a legal right for workers to join the union of their choice.

☐ A three-yearly review by employers of "check-off" arrangements by which union dues are automatically deducted from wage packets. Such arrangements would only continue with the express consent of employees.

☐ Independent control over the storage and distribution of ballot papers to prevent fraud in union elections.

Mr Howard indicated that on three fronts the government had chosen to beat a tactical retreat. The check-off review would be held every three years and not annually as first suggested; plans to make collective agreements legally binding would be shelved; and, for security reasons, independent scrutineers, not union members, would have the right to examine union membership records.

SIMON WALKER



Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, as "Vatman", catches the eye of a passerby. John Major yesterday dismissed Labour's claim that the Tories would raise VAT to 22 per cent. Full story, page 1

AROUND THE LOBBY

Tests on animals attacked

Nine companies were accused in the Commons yesterday of testing cosmetics on live animals.

Jimmy Dunnachie, Labour MP for Glasgow Pollok, called on the government to ban the tests. He listed a variety of products, saying: "These are only some of the brand names of companies like Alberto-Culver, Cheeseborough-Ponds, Colgate-Palmolive, Elida-Gibbs, Gilette UK Ltd, Bristol-Myers, Proctor & Gamble, L'Oreal UK Ltd and Shiseido — all of them listed among the chief offenders in the animal testing stakes."

Mr Dunnachie was given leave to introduce a bill banning tests on live animals for cosmetics. More than 4,000 tests were carried out in Britain in 1990, he said. His bill has no chance of becoming law.

More take up teaching

Teacher recruitment and training is increasing, according to figures given by Michael Fallon, a junior education minister. In a written reply he said that last year teacher vacancies fell by 20 per cent and recruitment to teacher training rose by 21 per cent.

School status

Three hundred and fifteen schools have voted in favour of grant-maintained status, Tim Eggar, the minister of state for education, said at question time. Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, told MPs that 13 city technology colleges have been established and two more will open in the autumn next year.

Steel on tour

Sir David Steel, above, the Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman and president-elect of Liberal International, leaves today for a six-day tour of the Middle East. He will be accompanied by Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrats' defence spokesman.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland. Education (Schools) Bill, remaining stages.
Lords (2.30): Debates on Wales, on the challenges facing the UN secretary-general and on Hong Kong after 1997.

Plea for disabled voters

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MPs from all parties yesterday called for urgent action to make it easier for disabled people to vote.

Jack Ashley, chairman of the all-party disablement group, condemned the "scandalous disregard for housebound and disabled people" when it came to voting rights. Disabled people found it difficult to get information on getting on to the electoral register, on applying for a postal vote and on the location of polling stations if they decided to vote in person, Mr Ashley said.

At the polling stations it was often cumbersome or impossible to get into polling booths. "Denial of the means to vote is a denial of democracy," Mr Ashley said. He claimed that some doctors were charging for signing the proxy forms for disabled people. The standard charge of £3 to £4 was beyond the means of many of the people concerned, he said.

Local authorities can get Treasury grants covering 50 per cent of the costs of adapting polling stations for polling day only. Few local authorities were willing to provide the other 50 per cent for a "one-day wonder", the group said.

Sir John Hannam, the group's secretary, called on the government urgently to implement the early day motion put down by Jeff Rooker, the "right to vote". Colin Low, vice-chairman of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, and Lord Rix, chairman of Mencap, highlighted the difficulties of the blind and partially sighted and the mentally handicapped in voting.

Tip-off exposed Iraqi deception

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Iraqis were stopped from using a UK factory site to develop lethal weapons only because they applied for a government grant to subsidise the work.

Foreign Office officials admitted yesterday that they were tipped off by the Northern Ireland Industry Development Board about the Iraqi ambitions for the Lear fan jet factory site after receiving a grant application.

John Goulden, an assistant permanent secretary, told the Commons enquiry into the Iraqi supergun affair that the factory had a legitimate civil use but was also involved in developing sophisticated technology which could have a military application.

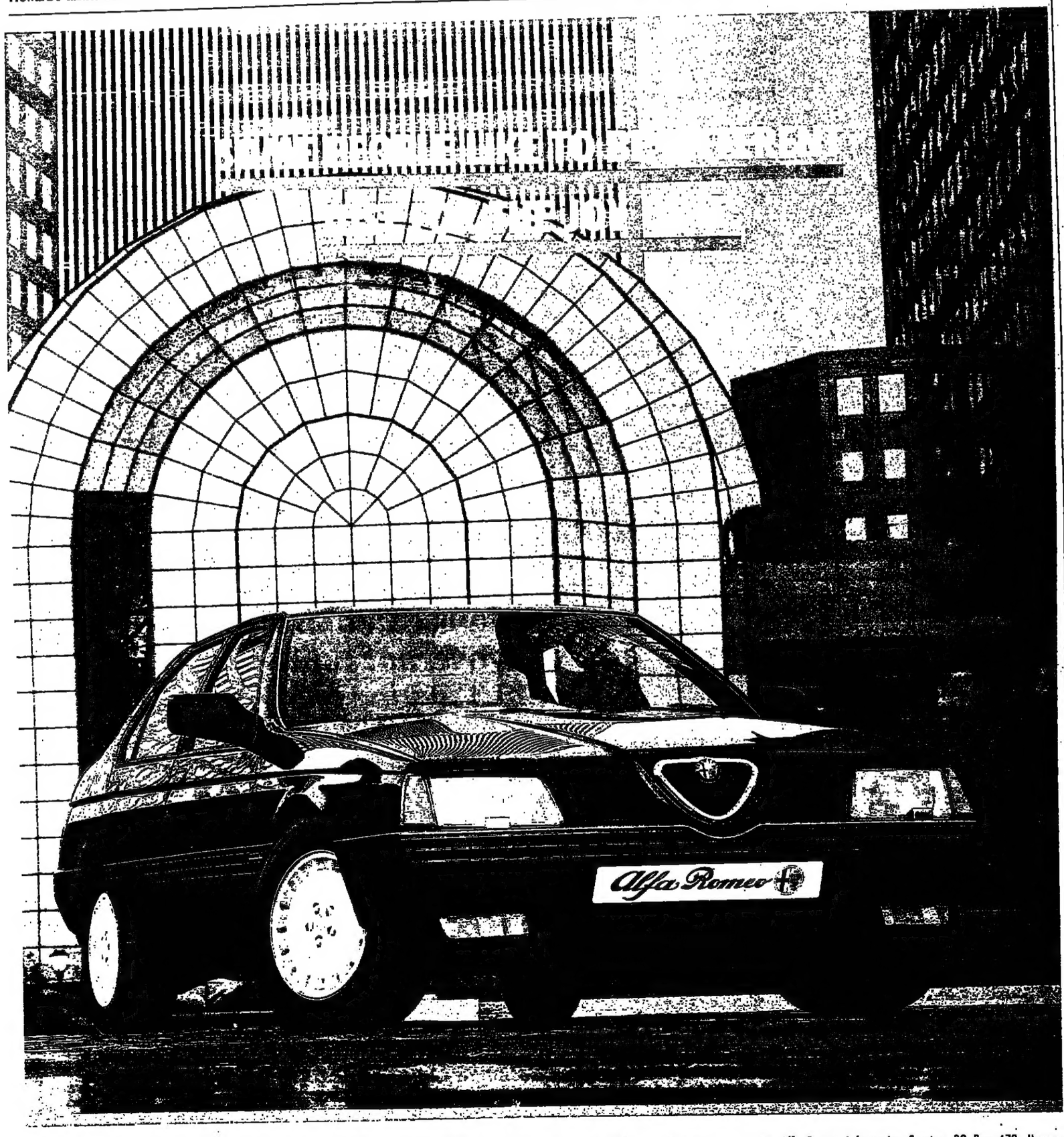
The government rejected the application after the tip-off by the board and learning of the involvement of a company called TDG, a known cover, with an office in London, for acquiring technology for the Iraqis.

Mr Goulden dismissed allegations from MPs on the trade and industry committee that Britain deliberately allowed Saddam Hussein to built up his military might to help him counter an invasion from Iran. However, he revealed that products might have been exported during the Iran-Iraq war in breach of a UN arms embargo.

When asked why the embargo was not imposed more rigorously, he said: "We were already penalising firms to a far greater extent than other Western governments." The Iraqis practised a sophisticated programme of deception in acquiring military technology from the West which was only pieced together by British officials in the late 1980s.

The Foreign Office did not hear of the supergun project until November 1989, more than a year after Iraq ordered steel pipes from Sheffield Forgemasters and Walter Somers of Halesowen, he said. It did not have firm evidence of a link with the project until March 1990. It was now known that the Iraqis had the capability to launch ballistic missiles with chemical and biological warheads during the Gulf war, Mr Goulden said.

Evidence to the committee from the UN special inspection team said that the Iraqis had test fired a supergun with a range of 140 miles. Parts were supplied by Britain, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Austria and the Soviet Union.



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Party dispute over budget mars Bush speech run-up

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

PREPARATIONS for President Bush's State of the Union address were interrupted yesterday by a row over health-care taxes that could presage a divisive debate in the Republican party.

As Mr Bush held final rehearsals for Operation Domestic Storm, the speech designed to launch his re-election bid, the presses printing the budget were suddenly stopped after conservative Republicans objected to a new tax proposal for the health-care benefits of top-salaried workers. With latest polls showing only 43 per cent approval for Mr Bush, and only 19 per cent of those polled believing the Republicans would produce a comprehensive health service, the White House had hoped for a smooth approach to the State of the Union speech.

Instead, a spokesman for the president had to explain why sections of the budget, prepared by Richard Darman, the director of the powerful office of management and budget, were unacceptable to Republican congressional leaders. The dispute reflects the battle for authority which Mr Darman is having to fight to maintain his influence in the newly reorganised White House. But it also reflects the battle over policy as conservatives resist any hint of more taxation.

The State of the Union speech contains a mixture of policies designed to stimulate the economy, including tax credits for new homebuyers and an end to the luxury tax on yachts and expensive cars. More spending is also proposed — on pre-school education and food programmes for poor children. Both Democrat and Republican critics have already said that the plans do not go far enough.

The most recent *New York Times*/CBS News poll showed that the president's audience last night was less confident than any for five State of the Union address in the past 13 years. The audience was also more disapproving of the president than at any time in his term of office, and increasingly interested in trying a Democrat in the White House. Although Mr Bush always defeats any named Democrat, an idealised mythical Democrat candidate gets 60 per cent support.

Mr Bush still has plenty of time to recover, but it is the economy which is at the forefront of every political mind not distracted by the sex allegations against Bill Clinton, the governor of Arkansas. Health care is the other issue climbing up the list of popular concerns. Some 65 per cent of respondents said they would back a tax-supported system, and 53 per cent said they would be prepared to pay an additional $1,000 (£550) a year in taxes to finance it.

Respondents were asked to rate the present state of American affairs on a scale of one to ten, a question posed by the *New York Times*/CBS poll since 1979. The present rate is 4.63, the lowest ever. The future is rated at 4.97, which may show confidence in Mr Bush but is more likely a natural irrepressible optimism.

● **Brussels:** America told its Nato allies yesterday that it intends to make heavy cuts in its long-range nuclear arsenal if former Soviet republics agree to do the same, Nato sources said. William Taft, the American ambassador to Nato, apparently told his counterparts from the 15 other alliance nations at a special meeting that Mr Bush would announce the plan in his State of the Union speech.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said the plan was to cut long-range missiles which carry more than one warhead. Some are based in deep silos on land and some on submarines.

"It's reciprocal," said one source. "Russia and other republics with strategic nuclear weapons will have to agree to make similar reductions in multiple-warhead missiles, but it is not the idea to have formal negotiations."

President Bush would also announce the scrapping of some weapons programmes related to nuclear arms and other unilateral steps which are aimed at building confidence between the former Cold War enemies, the sources said. *(Reuter)*

President's prose, page 10

'Damsel of death' convicted

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A WOMAN serial killer could be executed in the electric chair after being found guilty of murdering one of seven middle-aged men whom she has confessed to killing.

Aileen Wuornos, aged 35, nicknamed by the media the "damsel of death", is a prostitute who robbed her victims, pick-ups on Florida highways, of their money and jewellery to give as gifts to her lesbian lover. She said that she shot Richard Mallory in self-defence because he raped and tortured her. "I was raped. I hope you get raped, scumbags of America," she shouted as the jury of seven women and five men left the court after convicting her late on Monday. The jury reconvened yesterday to decide whether to recommend a death sentence or a mandatory 25-year prison term.

Mallory, aged 51, an electronics repairman, was found dead in a wooded area near Daytona Beach in December 1989 with four bullet wounds from the same .22-calibre handgun used in all seven killings. Wuornos told the court that Mallory tied her to the steering wheel of his car, then choked her and raped her.

But John Tanner, the Florida state attorney, told the court: "This was not a crime of passion, but a crime of having absolute control over her victim." When a prostitute wants to "take all a man has physically and, some say spiritually," he added, "there is only one thing left and that is to kill, and that is what she wanted and that is what she took."

He depicted Wuornos as a cunning, calculating killer motivated by greed. At the close of the two-week trial, Mr Tanner told the jury: "She has left you no reasonable choice except to find her guilty."

William Miller, the deputy public defender, argued that Wuornos had "every right to shoot Mallory not once, not twice, not three times but even four times". He said: "She was raped and brutalised. Despite her profession, she had a right to defend herself."

The jury took only 91 minutes to reach its verdict. In an effort to persuade the jury not to recommend a death penalty, defence lawyers planned to present evidence that Wuornos had lived alone since she was 14, worked as a prostitute since she was 16 and was abused by her grandfather.

In Milwaukee, the jury selection has begun in the trial of another serial killer, Jeffrey Dahmer, who has admitted cannibalism and necrophilia. With grisly evidence expected on Mr Dahmer's string of 17 murder charges, many prospective jurors told the court that they could not face the trial. Gerald Boyle, Mr Dahmer's defence lawyer, asked if anybody would be queasy about the testimony. "I am talking about verbal description of human carnage, killing, mutilation, cannibalism — everything you can possibly imagine," he said. Five jurors' hands shot up.

Crime and punishment: a defence lawyer's hand comforts Wuornos, the serial-killer prostitute, after the verdict in Deland, Florida

Blonde ambition troubles the US male psyche

With the saga continuing over Governor Bill Clinton's marriage, Americans still think blondes have more fun, writes **Charles Bremner** in Indianapolis

If you want to bring down an American politician, *cherchez la blonde*. No self-respecting campaign hatchetman would have brought Gennifer Flowers, a former cabaret singer, out of Governor Bill Clinton's woodwork had she been a short-haired brunette.

With her bottle-bleached tresses, her flaming lips and obligatory red suit, Ms Flowers's appearance in the ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria conformed to all the rules of the killer blonde, a genre that has wrought havoc with the American male psyche, and especially the political variety, all the way from the Revolution through Mae West and Marilyn to Madonna.

Fashions may come and go, women may be empowered or depowered, but the blonde, predatory, dumb or both at the same time, has held firmly to her pedestal, the object of worship and fear. American gentlemen prefer them, but violence and even disaster lurk beneath the sugary gloss. Clergymen are not immune, as Raymond Chandler noted in Marlowe's famous line: "She was the kind of blonde who would make a bishop kick a hole in a stained-glass window."

Take the roll-call of "smoking bimbos" of recent years, those women who flashed on to the national stage to deliver the *coup de grâce* to others' careers or reputations. From Donna Rice, Gary Hart's alleged paramour, and Jessica Hahn, the temptress of the tele-evangelists, to Marla Maples, Donald Trump's Georgia peach, the common factor has been blondness, either natural or bottle.

Blonde-bashing may be in vogue, yet America has never before been so enamoured of blondes. Brassy and starched, they deliver the news and sell most of the products on television. Long-haired and frizzed, they dominate the shopping malls and college campuses of the hinterlands.

Blondness is the crucial ingredient of "big hair", a look so obligatory in the suburbs and the southern states that a French hairdresser was sacked recently from a Dallas salon for telling Texas women that short was better. No cheerleading squad could hope to win without the blonde look. Even blacks and Hispanic women are dyeing their hair. Nor is intellect any obstacle to the dyers' art, in spite of rumours that peroxide damages brain cells.

Patricia Gifford, the judge presiding over the trial of Mike Tyson, is one. A stretch in the local jail awaits anyone who would dare call her the "Ice Queen", her nickname among local defence lawyers.

New York hairdressers report a surging demand. "Everyone wants to be one," says John Fromer, hairdresser to the stars and a senior "colorist" for Clairol, the company whose old slogan became a national saying: "Is it true that blondes have more fun?" Miss Clairol followed up with another slogan: "If I have only one life, let me live it as a blonde." Mr Fromer averages more than 35 blondes a week. A feeling of "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em" seems to be driving women to the hairdresser.

Julie Brown, the singer who ridiculed the look in her 1984 anthem, *The Blonde Song*, a ditty that said: "I'm blonde and I don't have to think. I talk like a baby and I always wear pink," has acknowledged that she wrote the lines out of jealousy and frustration. "Men love blondes and women are annoyed by them because, basically, blondes are superior beings in this culture," Ms Brown now says.

Jealousy and fear seem to be behind the fad for blonde-jokes such as: How do you put a twinkle in a blonde's eye? Shine a torch in her ear.

Academics are drawing profound conclusions from the phenomenon. Men are said to see blondes as the embodiment of a lethal combination of sex and power, a concept that has made millions for Madonna.

Joseph Boskin, a Boston professor and author of *Rebellious Laughter: Change and Humour in America*, said: "The blonde-jokes are a continuation of the first reaction against feminism that started in the late 1970s." A new offence is being added to the criminal code of the politically correct: hairism.

Leading article, page 11

Castro TV interview 'faked'

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

FRANCE'S best-known television news presenter, Patrick Poivre d'Arvor, is at the centre of a controversy arising from an interview with President Castro of Cuba that never took place.

In the face of allegations that his scoop for the TF1 network was achieved by doctoring film from other sources, Poivre d'Arvor has retreated behind the support of a handful of senior colleagues who have denounced the "nauseating" media campaign being waged against him.

Dr Castro did not talk directly either to Poivre d'Arvor or to another TF1 reporter whom viewers were led to believe had conducted the interview. According to unchallenged reports in *Le Canard Enchaîné*, a satirical magazine, and *Télérama*, a television listings magazine, the questions were recorded after a press conference held by the Cuban leader last month and later juxtaposed with film taken on that occasion.

In his version of events, Poivre d'Arvor acknowledged to *Télérama* that its report was true. He then insisted, however: "We had questioned Fidel Castro during his press conference, but the Cuban authorities would not allow us to place our camera behind him ... so we recorded our questions later."

Tyson 'date rape' hearing gets under way

Race prejudice threatens trial

BY CHARLES BREMNER

SEXUAL evidence at the trial of Mike Tyson is certain to inflame the worst stereotypes which white America has traditionally held about blacks, judging by an account from a lawyer who questioned Desiree Washington, the young woman who has accused the boxer of raping her in Indianapolis.

Although the media have been squeamish about discussing the question, the Tyson trial is turning into a racial version of the gynaecological drama performed in the case of William Kennedy Smith in Palm Beach last month. To the dismay of black intellectuals, the political spice of the Kennedy trial is being matched by a spectacle in Indianapolis that will bring into play all the stereotypes about black women as sexually loose and black men as super-virile "studs" — the Manding complex, as it is called from a best-seller about a slave and his master's wife.

Tyson's best hope of acquittal will hang on the ability of Vincent Fuller, his high-powered lawyer, in depicting Ms Washington, a contestant in the Miss Black America beauty contest, as a willing partner in sexual acts with Tyson in his hotel room in the small hours of the morning of last July 19.

Ms Washington, who is being depicted as the epitome of wholesome youth, says that she had purely "platonic" intentions when she accepted Tyson's invitation to her room. However, Robert Hammerly, who questioned Ms Washington in the early stage of the prosecution investigation, said the defence was certain to seize on a key event in her account of subsequent events. That was her decision to go to Tyson's bathroom to remove a sanitary pad after telling him he was making her "hot".

Mr Fuller is expected to ridicule the notion that Ms Washington, who is now 19, could have failed to understand the sexual implications of her decision to visit Tyson, given his notoriety.

The only physical injury to Ms Washington that doctors found was an internal abrasion, Mr Hammerly said, revealing the information for the first time. Tyson's defence planned to cite scientific data to prove the injury was the result of consensual sex because Tyson possesses a larger-than-average penis, Mr Hammerly said.

Tyson leaving the court in Indianapolis

Despite the public evidence of Tyson's previous physical aggressiveness towards women, a subject that will be admitted in evidence, legal experts said the prosecutors face an uphill battle in convincing the jury that there is no reasonable doubt that he committed rape. After the failure of the Kennedy smith case, an acquittal in Indianapolis will be seen as a blow to attempts to prosecute cases of "date rape".

Many local blacks see racism behind the decision to prosecute Tyson, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, a notion that has been encouraged by complaints from Don King, his manager, and others in his entourage. Their lawyers have complained from the outset that not enough blacks were in the jury pool.

They are likely to base any appeal on this point, lawyers said. Racial feeling in the area has not been helped by the whiteness of the great majority of the cast in the Indianapolis court.

Dallas to release JFK files

FROM AFP IN DALLAS

DALLAS city council has ordered the release of all police files on the assassination of President Kennedy, including some recently found in police intelligence archives. The council voted unanimously on Monday to make the information public and called on Congress to release federal files on the assassination that have been sealed until 2029.

"Maybe they will reveal something, maybe they won't," said Domingo Garcia, a council member, who sponsored the resolution. City employees and retired staff have also been asked to provide any information they might have.

A commission set up to investigate the 1963 assassination concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone when he shot Kennedy, who was riding in a motorcade through Dallas. Conspiracy theories which have emerged over the years have, however, gained attention again with the release of the film, *JFK*, which argues that the assassination was plotted by the CIA and military officials.

Oliver Stone, the film's director, has also lobbied Congress to release assassination files.

Paris: Stone has been honoured by Jack Lang, the French minister of culture, in a ceremony held in the minister's offices in the capital's historic Palais Royale. *JFK* opens in Paris today.

Afrikaner far-right leaders arrested

FROM GAVIN BELL IN CAPE TOWN

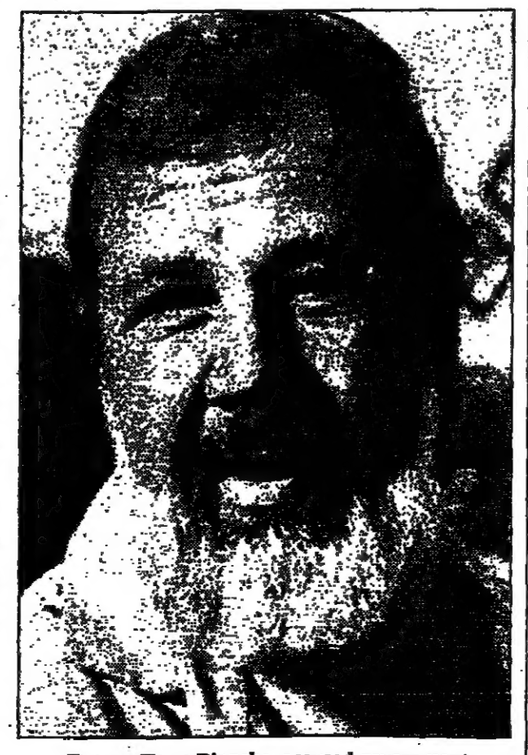
SOUTH African police arrested the entire leadership of an Afrikaner paramilitary organisation yesterday. Eugene Terre Blanche, leader of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), and nine of his lieutenants were detained in pre-dawn raids on their homes in Pretoria and the western Transvaal. They were held in connection with a gun battle with police last year in which three AWB members were killed and 58 people were injured.

Mr Terre Blanche was arrested in his home town of Ventersdorp, where the riot took place on August 9 when AWB militants demonstrated against a political rally addressed by President de Klerk. Others arrested included Mr Terre Blanche's brother, Andries, and Piet Rudolph, the AWB secretary-general.

The raids came after the recent arrest of about a dozen white right-wingers in connection with bomb attacks on multiracial schools, judicial buildings and post offices in the Transvaal. The AWB is the most important extra-parliamentary component of the extreme right which has vowed to combat the reform process. The arrests are a signal that Pretoria will no longer tolerate the AWB's threats of armed revolt.

Mr Terre Blanche, aged 47, and his associates appeared at Ventersdorp magistrate's court before being released on bail of £20 each. No charges were put to them by the state prosecutor and the case was adjourned until March 9. Judicial sources said they were provisionally charged with public violence and further arrests were expected soon. The group stood in a straight line in court as AWB members watched silently from the public gallery.

Mr Terre Blanche told reporters later that the "repression" demonstrated the government's insincerity in inviting the right wing to participate in negotiations on the country's future.



Eugene Terre Blanche: accused government of insincerity over constitutional talks

Way clear for women priests

FROM ROBERT COCKBURN IN SYDNEY

AN ATTEMPT to seek a court injunction to stop the ordination of Anglican women priests was rejected yesterday, enabling Australia's first such ceremony to go ahead this weekend.

The victory for the Right Rev Owen Dowling, Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn, and 11 women he has fought for the right to ordain was confirmed in a final judgment by Justice Andrew Rogers in the New South Wales Supreme Court. The injunction to stop the ordinations was sought by senior clergy of Bishop Dowling's own diocese. They intend to appeal against the judgment.

"I am relieved and excited now that I can look forward at last to being what I feel God has called me to be," the Rev Gail Tabor, a deacon, said after the judgment. Bishop Dowling faces the possibility of disciplinary action by church leaders.

Ragged Muslim refugees pin hopes on Burma border talks

FROM AHMED FAZL IN DHECHUA PALONG ON THE BANGLADESH-BURMA BORDER

SMOKE from straw fires rose over Dhechua Palong refugee camp as Noorjahan Begum woke up early yesterday to see Colonel Ali Hasan and three aides being flown across the border to the town of Mangdaw. He will hold talks with the Burmese army there which may decide her destiny.

Dhechua Palong camp is a hurriedly built collection of bamboo huts, near the border town of Teknaf, in a valley where during the war a British platoon fighting the Japanese had established a base. Mrs Begum came out of her hut, built on a low concrete bunker abandoned by the British, as two Bangladeshi helicopters carrying the officials flew low over the camp.

The refugee, aged 30, is still recovering from the torment of seeing her husband killed by Burmese soldiers, and from the subsequent rapes she was subjected to for three days by the troops. She clings to the hope of finding her son, aged seven, whom she had to leave behind when the soldiers dragged her out of her village. She arrived at the camp last Friday with her old mother.

About 8,000 Burmese Muslims, known as Rohingyas, are sheltering in the crowded Dhechua Palong camp, where sanitation and medical facilities are scarce. Another 20,000 Burmese Muslims have found refuge in the neighbouring town of Naikhangchari.

As Colonel Hasan began negotiations with senior Burmese military commanders yesterday, a fresh tide of Burmese Muslims arrived at the border, raising their number in Bangladesh to more than 65,000. "The flood of refugees has continued over the past week," Dauduzzaman Chowdhury, the local district commissioner, said. "We are setting up a new camp for 1,000 families living in the open." The official Bangladesh news agency said that 900 refugees entered Teknaf from Thamongkhali, a small Burmese border town, on Monday.

Bangladeshi officials said that Colonel Hasan will tell his Burmese counterpart to pull back the estimated 80,000 Burmese troops, deployed at the height of tension between Burma and Bangladesh, along the 176-mile border that runs beside the Arakan hills. Dhaka is also insisting on the early repatriation of the refugees who are a strain on one of the world's poorest countries.

Two earlier meetings between rival military commanders had failed to resolve the conflict after Burma accused Bangladesh of aiding Muslim rebels against Rangoon. Dhaka blames Burma's military rulers of inflicting atrocities on the Muslim minority in the western province of Arakan, forcing many of them to flee their homes. The two countries began massing troops on the border after a clash between their security forces on December 21.

هكذا من الأصل

Yeltsin plays for time amid collapse of military

Shaposhnikov: thinks one army is unrealistic

With political change obscuring the line of command, the breakdown of the Soviet armed forces appears irreversible, Mary Dejevsky reports from Moscow

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's unannounced trip to Novorossiysk, the Russian Federation's only large southern port, at a time when he was expected to be opening Middle East peace talks in Moscow, shows how seriously the Russian leadership views the state of the former Soviet armed forces.

But his visit may be less an attempt to prevent their fragmentation than to allay the worries of naval commanders until the process becomes irreversible and, as far as possible, harmless. Amid much huffing, puffing and bluffing, the high command of the armed forces has started to admit that the 3.75 million-strong armed forces are breaking up. It still appears to believe, however, that the process can be reversed.

In a recent newspaper interview, Nikolai Stolyarov, the chairman of the high command's military committee, urged leaders of the Commonwealth of Independent States to denounce "the trend towards disintegration", adding, in a tone of menace: "The army is more stable than the commonwealth."

The state of the armed forces has been made plain in the army newspaper, *Krasnaya Zvezda*. Although a recent front-page article insisted that the combat readiness of the commonwealth's strategic forces was unimpaired, facts and figures adduced elsewhere suggest the forces are disintegrating.

The next day, a front-page article declared: "Whatever the situation in the army, desertion is never justified." It said that between 1983 and November 1991 more than 6,000 men were "wanted" for desertion. The figure since that date, when President Gorbachev declared an amnesty, is 1,600. The article said that 10,000 servicemen in Ukraine had refused to swear allegiance to the republic and "a proportion of them have left their units without leave". One of 35 Russians who had deserted from units in the Transcaucasus and travelled home together was quoted as saying he had acted because the barracks had been shot at and he did not want to swear allegiance to Azerbaijan.

Another deserter spoke of the unclear line of command. "Before, I knew that we were subordinate to the Odessa military district, then it turned out we did not know whom we were subordinate to; Moldavia, Ukraine or Russia. First the Azerbaijanis left, then the Georgians. Now it's the turn of the Russians."

Commentaries in the army and conservative Russian press argue that a break-up of the Soviet army is too dangerous a prospect to allow. Some suggest that the army could take the law into its own hands and act as a separate political force, as it has done, for instance, in Yugoslavia. But morale among soldiers, the confinement to port at Sevastopol of most of the navy, partly for lack of fuel, partly for fear of defection, and the reported grounding of many planes for the same reasons suggest that such a move would not succeed.

Meanwhile, a game of make-believe appears to be in progress, in which the prime conspirators are Mr Yeltsin, Marshal Yevgeni Shaposhnikov, the interim commonwealth commander, and perhaps President Kravchuk of Ukraine.

All seem to recognise that the notion of a mighty commonwealth army will never be realised. Yet they also seem to be encouraging the officer corps to believe that they and their once united army have continued political influence and a future.

Socialite jailed for life

Vienna: A prominent Viennese socialite was jailed for life yesterday in a dramatic murder case after the Austrian supreme court ruled that an earlier sentence had been too lenient.

Udo Proksch, aged 56, who owned Vienna's elite Demel coffee house, had been jailed for 20 years last March for the murder of six seamen who died when a ship he had chartered sank in the Indian Ocean in 1977. A multi-million dollar investigation, which included a deep-sea search for the wrecked freighter, Lucona, concluded that it was blown up from inside in an attempted insurance swindle. The prosecution also appealed against the sentence.

Judge Ferdinand Strieller, who increased the sentence, said that the Lucona case was an insurance swindle unequalled in Austrian legal history for which Proksch had spent years planning. He said that the court's decision was final and it would not consider further appeals. *(Reuter)*

Muslims held

Yaoundé, Cameroon: Police here rounded up hundreds of young Muslims after riots in which at least three people were killed. Jean Fochive, the head of national security, said that he would not tolerate sectarian conflict. *(Reuter)*

Trade pledge

Singapore: Leaders of the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ended a two-day summit here with a pledge to form a free trade area by 2008. They also agreed to step up talks on regional security. *(Reuter)*

Party plea

Algiers: Algeria's former ruling National Liberation Front, in disarray after the end of three decades in power, asked its leaders, who had earlier resigned, to stay on and called a national conference for next month. *(AP)*

Work opening

Taipei: Taiwan plans to let mainland Chinese work in the island for the first time since the Communist takeover of China in 1949. The move is intended to ease the nationalist island's severe shortage of labour. *(Reuter)*

Condom blast

Dhaka: At least 50 people, including police officers, were injured when bombs were thrown by a mob at stands which were celebrating the Social Marketing Company's sale of a billion condoms in Bangladesh. *(AFP)*

Exile returns

Nairobi: Raila Odinga, a Kenyan opposition figure and former political prisoner, returned after a three-month exile. His father, Oginga Odinga, is interim chairman of the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy. *(AFP)*

Aborigines go

Sydney: The police removed all but four of a group of Aborigines who had occupied the Old Parliament House in Canberra to protest against the long domination of Europeans in Australia. The four who remained faced arrest.

Coupons out

Peking: Shanghai has abolished the use of coupons for state-subsidised sugar, eggs and salt, saying supply of the commodities was open. The coupons were part of a supply system aimed at guaranteeing stable prices. *(Reuter)*

Harare hero

Harare: Sally Mugabe, aged 60, the Ghanaian wife of President Mugabe of Zimbabwe, who died on Monday, has been declared a national hero. She will be buried at the National Heroes' Acre here on Saturday. *(Reuter)*

Storm victims

Algiers: Heavy rain and snow have killed at least 12 people in Algeria, including a bulldozer driver swept away while doing rescue work. The storms, which affected five provinces, have also left hundreds homeless. *(Reuter)*

Night shift

Karlsruhe: Germany's highest court overturned a ban on night work for women dating from Bismarck's reforms of 1891. The federal constitutional court said it discriminated against women and was illegal. *(Reuter)*

Russian chief emerges at Black Sea warship talks

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin of Russia, who vanished from Moscow on the eve of the Moscow round of talks on the Middle East, turned up yesterday morning in the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk with a day of engagements which included addressing commanders of the Black Sea fleet. A large group of officers were reported to have gathered in the port, including Admiral Igor Kasatonov, the fleet's commander.

Admiral Kasatonov has led a campaign against plans by the Ukrainian leadership to place all troops in the republic, including most of the Black Sea fleet, under Ukrainian command. The main naval port on the Black Sea is Sevastopol in the Crimea, but the Crimea — despite Russian opinions to the contrary — is administered by Ukraine.

A statement issued yesterday afternoon by Pavel Voshanov, President Yeltsin's spokesman, said Mr Yeltsin was visiting the Black Sea fleet "in the framework of preparations" for the forthcoming session of the United Nations Security Council and his meetings with President Bush, Brian Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister, John Major and leaders of other states with whom he intended to discuss nuclear security problems.

The statement said Mr Yeltsin was staying on board the cruiser Moskva "to acquaint himself with its technical characteristics and meet its crew". He was accompanied by Marshal Yevgeni Shaposhnikov, the commonwealth armed forces commander. Interfax, the independent news agency, quoted Mr Yeltsin as saying yesterday that Russia would take "all measures" to ensure continued supply shipments by air and sea routes from two Russian ports to the Black Sea fleet.

President Kravchuk of Ukraine meanwhile vowed to push ahead with plans to build a Ukrainian navy "on the basis" of the Black Sea fleet, and asserted that Ukraine had a "strong legal basis" under commonwealth agreements for doing so.

From Novorossiysk, Georgi Khobotov, the city's administrator and a Yeltsin appointee, denied rumours that the Russian leader would designate the port the new headquarters of the Black Sea fleet. He told Tass: "On the contrary, we have just agreed that land formerly used by the military on the edge of the city will be used for housing."

Watanabe: unable to meet Yeltsin

As Mr Yeltsin arrived in Novorossiysk, the city's dock workers were reported to be on strike, demanding higher pay to offset recent price increases and a portion of their pay in dollars. Crews of the former Soviet merchant navy already receive an allowance in dollars.

Several of the engagements Mr Yeltsin cancelled unexpectedly on Monday, including a meeting with James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and an interview with the BBC television programme *Panorama*, have been rescheduled for today. Mr Baker is to be received with all ceremony in St Catherine's hall in the Kremlin. Michio Watanabe, the Japanese foreign minister, however, declined a later meeting, saying that he had to return to Japan for the budget debate in parliament.

● **Gorbachev warning:** Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet president, met Sir Roderic Braithwaite, the British ambassador, here on Monday and told him that the failure of reforms in the Commonwealth of Independent States would mean the defeat of democracy, Tass reported. *(AFP)*

Lenin's library renamed

BY MARY DEJEVSKY

THE Lenin Library, the former Soviet Union's chief copyright library, has been renamed the Russian State Library. The change of name for the library, long regarded as a centre of academic excellence, was enacted in a decree signed by President Yeltsin late on Monday. Igor Filippov, aged 36, was appointed director.

Last November the library — a forbidding, grey building not far from the Kremlin — was closed temporarily by health inspectors who said it was unsanitary. Some believed that the closure was intended to pre-empt a threat by poorly paid library staff to go on strike. It reopened in the new year.

Moscow city inspectors had justified the closure by pointing to crowded working conditions and dust levels in the air two to ten times higher than permitted limits. Lighting was so bad that readers were advised to bring their own lamps and light bulbs.

The former Soviet government agreed to renovate the library five years ago and signed a contract worth $265 million (£150 million) with a Yugoslav company, but it was unable to come up with the money. The Russian government will now fund the necessary repairs.

The Lenin Library was founded by Count Nikolai Rumyantsev in 1861 and was given to the Russian imperial family after he died. The Soviet government nationalised the library after the bolshevik revolution and renamed it to honour Lenin. It houses 40 million volumes and is used by between 2,000 and 10,000 readers each day.

It is one of the last big institutions in Moscow to lose Lenin's name. The feeling is that the closure of the mausoleum on Red Square cannot be far behind.

After the failed August coup, which led to the collapse of the Soviet Communist party and the communist state, Lenin's reputation has tarnished. Statues and other monuments to the former leader have been removed.

Dress rehearsal: two members of the French special security forces taking up positions yesterday at the Olympic stadium in Albertville, southeastern France, where the opening ceremony of the winter games will take place on February 8

40 die in rocket air attack

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ABOUT 40 people were reported killed in Azerbaijan yesterday when a civilian helicopter was shot down by a rocket. Tass quoted senior Azeri officials in Nagorno-Karabakh, the disputed Armenian enclave, saying that the helicopter was flying into the enclave from the town of Agdam in Azerbaijan. The crew and all passengers, including women and children, were killed.

Britain yesterday called for fresh efforts by the international community to promote a peaceful settlement in the territory, where 45 Azerbaijanis and 15 Armenians had already been killed in fierce new fighting.

London expressed concern about the deteriorating situation, and gave a veiled warning to the two republics that their applications to join the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) would be blocked if they did not restrain their gunmen. Britain said it might invoke the human rights provisions of the CSCE, and called on the two sides to use the dispute settlement mechanism.

Fighting flared again over the weekend in the disputed enclave. Tass said yesterday that fighting was continuing in the village of Karin-Tak and several houses had been burnt down.

Gamsakhurdia bastion falls to Georgia rebels

FROM ELIF KABAN IN POTI

AFTER a day of fighting in which at least six people were killed, Georgian government forces yesterday seized one of the last strongholds of supporters loyal to the ousted President Gamsakhurdia.

Troops under the command of Jaba Ioseliani, head of one of the two main forces making up the ruling military council, met no resistance as they moved into this Black Sea town. Armoured vehicles rumbled along the tree-lined streets as residents, mainly supporters of Mr Gamsakhurdia, boarded up windows and remained indoors.

"I'm very tired. It was a hard battle," Mr Ioseliani said at his temporary headquarters in Poti's yacht club. Local officials and the head of the town's hospital said six people were killed and at least 20 others injured in fighting around a bridge to the north of the town on Monday.

Mr Gamsakhurdia, elected in a landslide victory last May, fled to Armenia three weeks ago after losing a bloody power struggle with the military council. He later returned to west Georgia, but his whereabouts for the past week have been unknown.

The fall of Poti was another serious blow to his attempt to regain power. He can now rely on support only in the port of Sukhumi, to the north, and the town of Zugdidi to the east. "Poti was the most difficult part of our job, but the war is not finished yet. Zugdidi and Sukhumi are still in the hands of Gamsakhurdia," Mr Ioseliani said.

Tass quoted Indiko Kobalia, the mayor of Zugdidi, as saying that supporters of Mr Gamsakhurdia were staging round-the-clock demonstrations in the town. "The city will not surrender and is rejecting all proposals from the government troops to start negotiations," he said.

Mr Ioseliani, carrying a Kalashnikov assault rifle and wearing a bandolier of bullets, predicted that the fighting in Georgia might last up to two months. Many Poti residents vowed to resist the military council

"Our war is just beginning. There will be a lot of unrest and civil disobedience," shouted an old woman inspecting empty shells scattered around the northern bridge leading into Poti. "The Tbilisi soldiers are criminals and drug addicts," she said, waving an empty syringe she had found. Tornike Berishvili, a psychologist from Tbilisi, the Georgian capital, who is travelling with the troops, agreed that some men were taking drugs. "I think that there will be a lot of psychological problems when the war ends because Georgians are fighting Georgians," said.

Mr Ioseliani's troops occupied the town hall and immediately removed a portrait of Mr Gamsakhurdia above the main door. An army lorry carrying a rocket launcher was parked outside, guarded by a dozen soldiers. Hundreds of frightened townspeople waited around the building, uneasily mingling with the government soldiers.

At a Moscow airport yesterday, about 50 supporters of Mr Gamsakhurdia staged a hunger strike inside a plane to complain about media reports about their leader. They said that newspaper and television reports from Moscow inaccurately portrayed him as a dictator.

The supporters, most of whom live in towns in western Georgia which are Gamsakhurdia strongholds, hired a Tupolev-134 in the Black Sea port of Sukhumi on January 20 and set out for Moscow to stage their protest. They decided to return to Sukhumi on Monday. But they said the flight crew of their hired aircraft was detained at Vnukovo airport in Moscow and sent to Tbilisi on a different plane. *(Reuter)*

UN envoy presses Serbs

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ZAGREB

A UNITED Nations special emissary shuttling around Yugoslavia said yesterday that the ceasefire which has lasted 25 days was sufficiently robust to allow the deployment of 10,000 "blue beret" peacekeepers. But the envoy, Marrack Goulding, a Briton, indicated after talks with Croatian leaders in Zagreb that the rejection of the UN peace plan by leaders of Serbian enclaves in Croatia remains a stumbling block.

"One of the conditions which has always been there — a reasonably stable ceasefire — has now been fulfilled," Mr Goulding said after nearly three hours of talks with President Tudjman of Croatia, held in the Villa Zagorje that once belonged to Tito.

"Sadly people are still dying," Mr Goulding said. "But most of the alleged ceasefire violations are relatively minor." However, he added: "The other condition is that all those concerned should accept the plan and be prepared to co-operate with UN personnel. There are one or two other points in which those concerned still have reservations". He evidently was referring above all to the rejection on Monday of the UN proposals by Milan Babic, the leader of the self-styled "Serbian Republic of Krajina."

Plumber adds strings to his capitalist bow

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN BUDAPEST

Soulful violin solos are a common extra in Budapest restaurants, lashings of vibrato and stormy finales recalling the 19th-century battle for coffee-house superiority between Austria and Hungary. Now, as then, the Viennese specialise in gayness while the residents of Budapest prefer a more mournful approach to an evening out.

But if today's musicians glance nervously at the near-empty saucers beside their chairs it is probably because they, in common with the rest of the population, are feeling the squeeze. Unemployment is rising rapidly — 12 per cent in the cities, double that in rural areas — and inflation is running at 35 per cent. As the cost of living spirals more and more Hungarians are forced to take second or even third jobs to survive.

Gabor Egervari, the violinist delivering Bartok and Kodaly with fine feeling in the cafes around Budapest's Opera House by night, is a plumber by day and a taxi driver at the weekend. "I come as a package," he remarked, "I play at weddings, drive the bride and groom home and promise to mend their pipes, all as part of the same deal."

Although he regularly works 18 hours a day, he and his wife live in the 21st district of the city, politely described as proletarian. It is, in fact, a sprawling and polluted housing estate. He said that he has the ideas and aspirations of a bourgeois intellectual but the living standards of an untrained manual worker.

As a party of German tourists seats itself, Mr Egervari abruptly abandons the classics for "If I Were A Rich Man" from the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. It is a staple of Budapest's cafe life that clearly comes from the heart. The song's yearning refrain could serve as the motto for post-communist Hungary which has taken to capitalism with gusto.

Mr Egervari has just bought a rattling third-hand eastern German Trabant car and laughs at the irony of the two countries' fates. "We opened them the door to freedom when we demolished our iron curtain frontier with Austria and let them out of their cage. Now they drive VW Golfs and we have inherited their Trabis." The city's stock exchange, set up in 1990 and praised by Margaret Thatcher as an investment beacon for the rest of the East, is still trading a mere 19 companies, albeit with more than 50 brokers attending to them. One scarcely knows whether to be impressed at the initiative or reminded of outdated socialist over-manning.

The stock market had its first crash recently in response to the Yugoslav war. The joke in Budapest's business circles is that its impact was so negligible at first that nobody noticed when Black Monday happened.

For the new class of entrepreneurs, however, life is sweet. They are the owners of the large cars lining city centre streets and their wives scrutinise the cut of the spring collections, just in from Paris and Rome on the main shopping street. Others are still getting the hang of it. Near by stand up to 40 Transylvanian peasant women, selling their home-embroidered tablecloths.

World is given a £134m bill to save the elephant

Africa's population, set to double in 23 years, will put pressure on parks, thereby endangering the elephant, Sam Kiley reports from Nairobi

A HUGE injection of foreign aid is needed to save the African elephant from extinction as the human population on the continent is set to explode in the next two decades, Mostafa Tolba, the head of the United Nations Environment Programme, said yesterday.

In an impassioned speech at a conference in Nairobi on the future of the elephant, Dr Tolba told delegates from the 30 African countries with elephant populations that much of the $240 million (£134 million) required will have to come from the rich countries of the northern hemisphere. If the wealthy countries of the world fail to come to the aid of the pachyderm, then "the elephant and its habitat will be destroyed, and the population will either be eliminated or it will be reduced to a few isolated remnants", he said.

The human population on the African continent stands at half a billion today but the United Nations estimates that this will rise to a billion in the next 23 years. If the elephant is to be preserved, then ever-increasing amounts of money are going to have to pay to keep herds safe, he said, as growing numbers of people, hungry for land, vie for the resources. Dr Tolba pointed out that as Africans use far fewer resources than any others on the planet, telling them to conserve their resources would get "nowhere".

Dr Tolba refused to be dragged into the debate on whether the trade ban on ivory, imposed in 1989 under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and which comes up for review at the next Cites meeting in Kyoto, Japan, in March, should be partially lifted. Southern African states like South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana have been lobbying for a partial freeze of the ban to enable them to sell their ivory surplus from elephant culls.

However, in the eastern African states, conservationists oppose such a move, saying that the elephant population is still at risk from poachers. "Ivory market or no ivory market, the African elephant population is going to be under enormous pressure," was all Dr Tolba would say.

Most of the countries attending the conference submitted plans to conserve their elephant populations for discussion at the five-day meeting. Their estimates of foreign aid required add up to about $240 million over the next five to ten years.

Much of the decline of the elephant population on the continent, especially in Uganda, Tanzania, Zaire, and most of northwest Africa, has been due to government incompetence, civil war, and poaching. Nevertheless, many of the countries struggling to save the elephant have now given up about 10 per cent of lands over to national parks — considerably more than anywhere else in the world.

Rwanda, where only about 100 elephants remain, suffers relatively little from poaching but faces a growth in human population from 7.5 million to 15.6 million in 20 years. "This puts into doubt the long term future of the 10 per cent of land given now under protection," the Rwandan plan says. Civil war and poaching in Uganda has meant that the elephant population has dropped from 60,000 in the 1960s to about 1,910 last year. Uganda says it needs $8.8 million to save these from extinction.

Liberia, where civil war has been raging for a year, has 9 per cent of west Africa's 19,000 elephants. It has asked for $1.2 million in aid. All the plans include large budgets for security — anti-poaching units along Kenyan and Zimbabwean lines — as well as for education and capital investment.

Delegates hope that the meeting in Nairobi will produce a continent-wide conservation plan for the elephant. Mozambique has come up with the most spectacular plan — to integrate much of the south of the country into a conservation area which would include the Kruger National Park across the border in South Africa, forming the largest national park in the world. Mozambique's elephant population has fallen from about 65,000 in 1974 to 13,350 in 1990 as a result of civil war.

But if and when peace comes to the country, it says it will require $15.48 million to repair what its delegate described as the "destruction of the entire conservation infrastructure".

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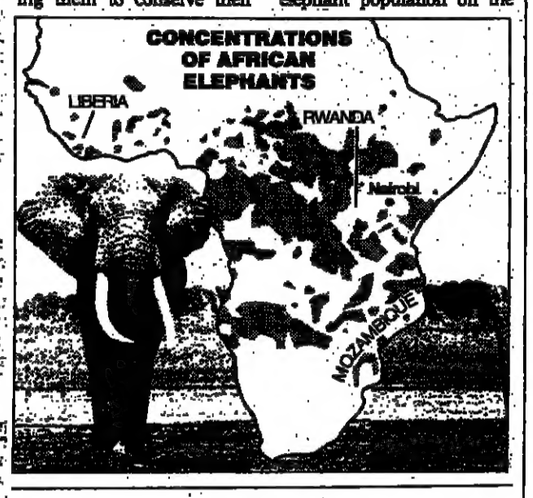

Intelligence test: Kathryn Barnes, the second youngest recruit to Mensa, and her parents Gillian and Robert. Kathryn, four in April, has presented the society for highly intelligent people with the puzzle of how to cater for its younger members. Her success in tests set by a psychologist satisfied Mensa's membership rules, but Hargold Gale, executive director, says the society has little to offer her: "We have a newsletter and regular meetings, but whether she can read the magazine or toddle into the back bar where her local branch meets is another matter." Kathryn, of Ipswich, has a 100-word vocabulary and enjoys chess and mathematical problems.

Italy faces shrinking future

Rome: Italy now has the lowest birth-rate ever recorded in the world (Paul Bompard writes). The National Research Centre said Italian women have an average of 1.27 children each, down from 1.29 in 1990. The figure for Britain is 1.81.

The centre said that if the trend continued within three years there would be more Italians over 60 than under 20. By the year 2021 the population will have shrunk by 3.5 million.

Hidden wealth

Cairo: Egyptian police, suspicious of Ezzat Sawi's sudden wealth, accused him of robbing a jewellery shop but the labourer said he had sold a kidney for £20,000. *(Reuter)*

Father's victory

Los Angeles: A judge ruled that a banker should have full parental rights to the four-year-old son of his former girlfriend even though he was not the father. *(Reuter)*

Wombat shame

Sydney: The Lithgow Wombats, a minor league Australian basketball team, were ordered off court after officials said they were too drunk to continue. *(Reuter)*

Pinatubo sunsets 'put ozone at risk'

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines in June is creating brilliant sunsets around the world, but atmospheric scientists fear that the particles causing the deep violet skies are also damaging the ozone layer.

Yesterday, Guy Brasseur, director of the atmospheric chemistry division at the atmospheric research centre in Boulder, Colorado, said that the aerosols responsible for the sunsets might wipe out as much as a tenth of the ozone layer and temperatures for the next two years.

Dr Brasseur said that he was especially concerned about the effect this spring. Every fall of 1 per cent in ozone leads to a 2 per cent increase in ultra-violet radiation reaching the earth from the sun, increasing dangers of skin cancer. He said that the ozone will recover, but the effect might last about a year or two.

At the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth, physicists using laser beams to study the upper atmosphere have detected material that they believe is Pinatubo debris. Professor Lance Thomas says that the observations so far are insufficient to identify the material, but suggest that it contains ash or dust as well as the tiny sulphate particles that have the greatest effect on the weather.

The Pinatubo eruption, which began on 9 June, produced huge amounts of sulphur dioxide and hydrogen sulphide gas, which condensed at high altitudes into a mist that has gradually spread around the world.

Professor Thomas is in no doubt that recent sunsets in Britain have owed something to Pinatubo. According to David Parker, of the Meteorological Office, the time to look is half an hour after sunset, when a purple glow in the sky in the direction in which the sun set indicates debris from the volcano. The effect is at its peak this month.

PEOPLE

Colombo in court

Peter Falk's daughter, **Catherine**, aged 21, is suing him to get him to abide by an agreement to pay her college costs. The suit alleges that Falk, best known for his television portrayal of the rumpled detective in *Colombo*, has stopped paying her tuition and board at Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York, contrary to the terms of her parents' divorce settlement.

□

C & C Music Factory topped the list of winners at the 19th American Music Awards. The group was voted best band and best new artist in the rock and roll and dance music categories. **Natalie Cole** (above) took two awards for best adult contemporary music artist and for best album in the same category. *Unforgettable* is an electronic mixing of her voice singing along with that of her father, the late **Nat King Cole**.

□

Wang Meng, the reformist Chinese culture minister sacked after the 1989 democracy movement, appeared at an international art festival in Peking in an apparent rebuff to his conservative opponents.

□

Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals has named **Michael Douglas** and **Jodie Foster** as their 1992 Man and Woman of the Year. Foster will be honoured with a parade through Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

□

Actress and exercise guru **Jane Fonda** underwent surgery for a knee injury she suffered in a skiing accident, the Alabama Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Centre said. Dr James Andrews said that her "excellent physical condition" should speed her recovery.

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An Irish cat with nine lives

Conor Cruise O'Brien wonders if Mr Haughey will fight another day

Politicians and political commentators here in Dublin are confidently assuming that Charles Haughey is as good as gone. He has "no option" but to go, we are told, he is "bowing to the inevitable". All this gives me a strong sense of *déjà vu*. Nine years ago, in the days when Mr Haughey and I enriched the political vocabulary with the word GUBU, exactly the same noises were made on the eve of a critical meeting of the Fianna Fail parliamentary party. Then, just as now, all political speculation was concentrated on who would succeed Mr Haughey. That he would go was taken for granted. Had he not intimated as much to senior political colleagues (just as he was doing last week)? He had, but he *didn't go. He may be going now*, but I'll believe it when I see it.

It is true that the odds against his being able to hold on appear to be fearsome. A poll at the end of last week showed that 73 per cent of the population want him to go, and that includes 53 per cent of Fianna Fail. Almost all of his cabinet colleagues want him to go, as do almost all the Fianna Fail parliamentary party. The alternative, after all — if the Progressive Democrats are as good as their word — is a general election in which a number of Fianna Fail members of the Dail would inevitably lose their seats.

Haughey: a remarkable talent for survival

Virtually all the pundits are convinced that Mr Haughey, having contemplated the circumstances and the disastrous alternative, will go quietly. After all, it is being said, he is "a cool pragmatist". But, one has to ask, cool pragmatist about what? If it is a question, say, of sacrificing an old friend such as Brian Lenihan in order to stay in power, why then C.J. Haughey is as cool a pragmatist as you could meet on a dark night. But if there is a threat to his own power, the record shows that Mr Haughey is not so much a cool pragmatist as a ruthless no-holds-barred little scrapper. And there is still, *pace* the pundits, a fighting *option open to him*.

Mr Haughey has still a Fianna Fail trump card to play. That trump card is the question "Are you going to allow the leader of another party to determine the time at which the leader of Fianna Fail shall step down?" That is a question with powerful resonance in the Irish nationalist tradition. It was, in essence, the question that Charles Stewart Parnell put to his followers 101 years ago when Gladstone demanded that he should go. Parnell put it in the form: "Are you going to abandon your leader at the bidding of an Englishman?"

It is true that Desmond O'Malley, leader of the Progressive Democrats, is not an Englishman, but Mr O'Malley is a renegade from Fianna Fail, which puts him squarely in the tradition of Dermot McMurragh and his prototype, Judas Iscariot. So Mr Haughey has a marvellous rallying cry, if and when he chooses to raise it.

He has not raised it yet at full volume, but he sent out a clear preliminary signal last week. On Thursday, he chaired a meeting of Fianna Fail's national executive, which issued a statement denouncing the Progressive Democrats. That was a warning to the parliamentary party and an appeal to the grassroots. That message has been reinforced this week by a well-attended meeting of Mr Haughey's constituency organisation in Dublin North Central, which called upon him to stay on and breathed defiance against the "conspiracy" to get rid of him. Mr Haughey's son Sean told the meeting that his father was "in perfect physical health and well capable of leading Fianna Fail for many years to come". On the same day, Mr Haughey issued a statement to the effect that "he is not actively supporting any of the candidates" in a possible contest. This has been generally interpreted in the media here as an implicit declaration of intent to stand down, probably tomorrow. We shall see.

The crucial issue now is the timing. Mr Haughey has said he will go — at a time of his own choosing. The Progressive Democrats insist that he must go "immediately" after today's Budget, and it was assumed up to the end of last week that Mr Haughey would step down at tomorrow's meeting of the parliamentary party. Not so, it now seems. The statement about the future of the leadership is reserved for a special meeting on Wednesday of next week.

I don't know what Mr Haughey will tell that meeting, but I think it will be short of the unconditional surrender now so confidently predicted. He may set a date near enough to seem reasonable to Fianna Fail, but far enough off to worry the Progressive Democrats. Or he may defy the latter openly, by declining to set a date under duress from them. In short he may either risk or precipitate a general election. But whatever he does, Fianna Fail is likely to swallow it, once Mr Haughey has inveighed against allowing the Progressive Democrats to dictate the leadership of Fianna Fail. So we may be headed towards a general election. If so, Fianna Fail, still led by Mr Haughey, is going to lose a number of seats. At that point, a diminished Fianna Fail parliamentary party may nerve itself to oust Mr Haughey. But I wouldn't like to bet even on that.

I doubt whether Mr Haughey has yet made up his mind about the exact nature of the statement he will make tomorrow. But whatever he says, there will be concern about the dignity of his position as leader of Fianna Fail and about his place in history. These concerns will not be easily compatible with the demand of the PDs that he depart "immediately" after the Budget. So there may be more difficulties ahead.

As a writer threatens his publisher, Philip Howard surveys this eternally difficult relationship

Brought to book

The relationship between publisher and author is fraternal. But the brothers are Cain and Abel, and the sisters are Cinderella and her stepsisters. It is a parasitic love-hate affair, easy on the love.

However, it seldom becomes as violent as the relations between the novelist John Healy and his publisher, the trendy house of Faber & Faber. Mr Healy is the author of a novel called *The Grass Arena*, which tells of the redemption through chess of an alcoholic ex-boxer, ex-convict, ex-dosser, alarmingly like Mr Healy. When it was televised by BBC2 earlier this month, the television critics praised the realistic depiction of chaotic life among the winos, and dropped in references to the nastier circles of Dante's Inferno.

The novel has sold 2,855 copies in hardback, and 15,000 in paperback, which is jolly good. But Mr Healy grumbles that he has received only £8,364 and that his publishers are not trying hard enough. The chairman of Faber, Matthew Evans, said yesterday: "He has been telling the press for three years that we are a middle-class élitist publishing house, and that Robert McCrum [Faber's fiction editor] and I are middle-class wallies." In addition, Healy has threatened to throw acid in Mr Evans's face and to creep up behind Mr McCrum in the dark and hammer him to death. Faber has announced that it will publish no more of Mr Healy's books.

A literary editor is a battered non-competent in this uncivil war. Authors and publishers each bend his ear with horror stories about the greed and incompetence of the other. Always divide any advance royalty figure either party tells you by three: they only do it to annoy their rivals and boost their egos and hype their books.

This is just the normal relationship between author and publisher carried to extremes in public. Most authors complain that their publishers are mercenary philistines who are robbing them, and that their books would be best-sellers if only the publishers would plaster the Underground with advertisements, and get them on the BBC's author-buttering shows. Publishers think of authors as feckless and egomaniac children, who are hopeless at business in the real world, and need to be kept chained to their word-processors, and released only once a year to be taken out to lunch, where they will drink too much. Both sides have a point. The making of books is a paranoid trade.

Tennyson called his publisher "a louse in the locks of literature", and Byron said of the original John Murray, "Barabbas was a publisher". It is believed that he was referring to the gospel according to John: "now Barabbas was a robber". Edgar Allan Poe asserted that his publisher, trying to be literary, "talks about books pretty much as a washerwoman would about Niagara Falls or a poulterer about a phoenix".

Cyril Connolly wrote: "As repressed sadists are said to become policemen or butchers, so those with an irrational fear of life become publishers." Shaw said: "Publishers combine commercial rascality with artistic touchiness and pettiness, without being either good businessmen or fine judges of literature. All that is necessary in the production of a book is an author and a bookseller, without any intermediate parasite."

There is a story of an author who was executed for murdering his publisher. They say that when the author was on the scaffold, he said goodbye to the priest and the reporters, and then saw some publishers sitting in the front row below, and to them he did not say goodbye. He said instead: "I'll see you again."

Publishers have their own tales about the vanity and ingratitude of authors, related discreetly at dinners of the Society of Bookmen. George Smith, his publisher, told how Leigh Hunt did not know what to do with a cheque. So Smith gave him banknotes in an envelope. Two days later, Leigh Hunt came in a great state of agitation to say he had thrown the envelope with the banknotes inside carelessly down, and his wife had flung it into the fire. So Smith dragged Leigh Hunt off to the Bank of England to try to salvage the burnt money. And Leigh Hunt said to the solemn officials: "And this is the Bank of England! and do you sit here all day, and never see the green woods and the trees and flowers and the charming country? Are you contented with such a life?"

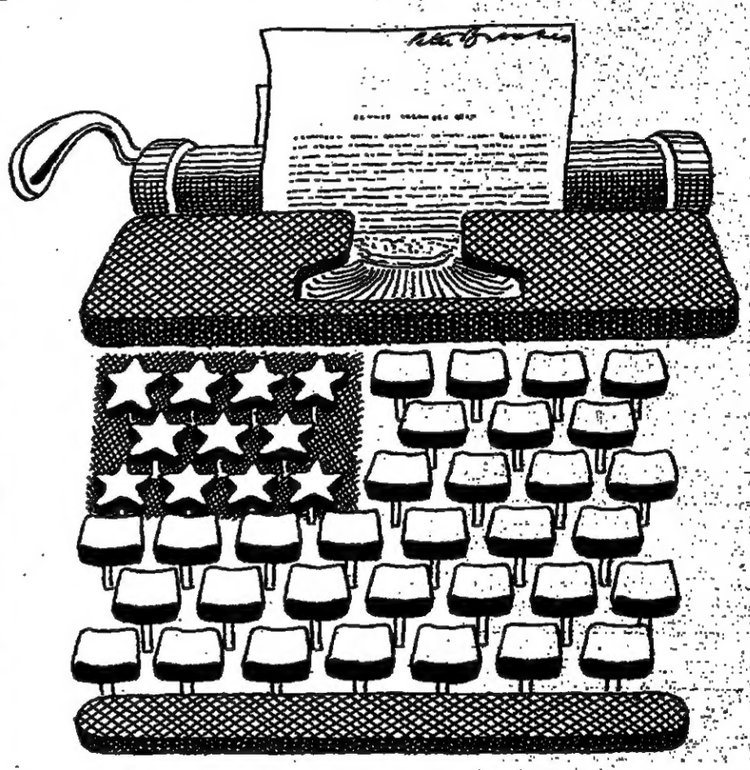
Of course, sometimes a publisher does fail to appreciate a book according to its merits. Bernard Quaritch could not sell Edward Fitzgerald's translation of the *Rubaiyat* at half a crown, so he put it in the penny reject box outside the door. This does not happen often. Publishers are professionals in the puffing business, and are pretty good judges of the market for a book. It is their living.

Most serious authors today have agents, who reduce the possibility of commercial misunderstanding and paranoia. The new standard contract says that an author has a right to be told such professional secrets as the number of copies of his book printed and to be consulted on such matters as the jacket.

It has become possible for authors to publish their own books by desktop publishing. But most cannot face the laborious admin and mechanics of bookmaking and distribution. Relations between publishers and authors are becoming gradually more professional. But after this Healy/Faber affair, the louder an author talks about literature, the faster will his publisher count his hammers.

All the president's prose

Peter Stothard examines the White House team behind last night's keynote address



Today the president's men will allow themselves to exhale a short sigh of relief. The State of the Union address is done. The speech which was heralded as the "defining event of the presidency" has been finished. The weeks of bitter bureaucratic battling to compress the Bush re-election message into a single hour of applause-spangled prose are over.

These are nervous times at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Almost three-quarters of the American electorate judge the country to be in worse condition today than it was five years ago, the highest figure since the so-called "malaise" days of Jimmy Carter. The president's 43 per cent approval rating, less than half of what it was after the Gulf war, has already cost the job of the White House chief of staff, John Sununu. But since his replacement by the kinder, gentler Sam Skinner, almost everyone in the junior ranks has been afraid of losing his or her job too. The newspapers have daily been filled with stories about which adviser is to be sacked next and which departments will disappear.

The most influential man in the White House today is — appropriately enough — an opinion pollster, Robert Teeter. In 1988, his mastery of the nation's "perceptual map" helped George Bush overcome his weaknesses as an upper-class élitist. Today, the man who tells the president what the nation wants him to say has an even more powerful role in the re-election campaign.

For the past fortnight, Mr Teeter had been stoking up interest in last night's speech to the point where White House rivals could see only inevitable disappointment ahead. In a city where political experts calibrate public expectations as carefully as a brain surgeon cuts capillaries, last night's ritual almost went out of control. President Bush himself had been excitedly urging the nation to "tune in", as though his address was a lottery draw, not a laundry-list of economic policies.

On Mr Teeter's advice, much of the substance had deliberately been announced beforehand. What was left was the rhetoric, the work not of high-level aides, but of lowly speechwriters, the "kids of politics" as their doyenne, Peggy Noonan, once termed them.

It seemed odd to many Republicans that a man so utterly lacking in rhetorical skill, who munches syntax as though it were breakfast cereal, should set so much store by the power of oratory. White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater talked darkly this week of the dangers of expecting too much from one event. "Political opponents have tried to raise the bar so high it can't be jumped over," he said. But it was hard to think of an opponent who had done as much to draw attention to last night's address than the men who wrote it and supplied policy for it, and the man who delivered it.

Mr Bush, who relies for almost everything else upon a close-knit group of advisers, depends for his speeches on people who are not his natural soulmates. The senior writer, former columnist and editorial page editor Tony Snow, describes himself as "your basic inkstained wretch", and a year ago described Mr Bush and his A-team as "a band of patronizing white boys whose fumbling [over the issue of racially selected scholarships] virtually ensures vivid and ugly warfare on issues of race during the 1992 elections". In 1990, according to Mr Snow, President Bush's White House was "suffused with arrogance and insulated entirely from the real world". It was as if an android were in the Oval Office, he suggested. The motto of the president's smart boys was "all for one and one for one", he said, a twisted creed which men like the White House budget director, Richard Darman, were seen to enforce "with Torquemadan zeal".

The reason for quoting these lines is neither to embarrass Mr Snow, who is now a respected smart boy himself, nor to inflame Mr Darman, a man who has been insulted so often that water off a duck's back is no longer a sufficient metaphor for his ability to shrug off abuse. The point is that even a word-blind president might reasonably try to assemble writers closer to him in spirit and thought than those presently available to Mr Bush. Why does Mr Bush rely upon a speech-writing machine in which young ideologues battle like board-game players?

In her memoirs Peggy Noonan aptly describes Washington as a city which "both esteems and dislikes writers, a city of powerful men who are often inarticulate and who dislike being reminded of their condition by the presence of a pale and nervous wordsmith". She herself was an influential in putting some of her best words into the mouths of Ronald Reagan and George Bush in the 1980s. This week malicious gossips have suggested that Bush should have brought her back to put more poetry into his State of the Union text.

But today's White House speechwriters dare not do for their president what, for example, that brilliant sparkler of prose Sir Ronald Millar did for Margaret Thatcher: that is, give counsel, coaching and comfort. The more powerful people become in the Washington bureaucracy, the more they have to lose by being associated with anything so unpredictable as a good or bad phrase. Far better to leave that to more expendable morals.

Earlier this week, as part of the White House shuffling designed to "sharpen the president's message", Mr Bush's affable and highly respected spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, was given a grander title, "counsellor to the president and press secretary". Asked whether this meant he had responsibility for speeches, Mr Fitzwater reacted firmly: "No. Believe me, I don't ever ... I never want to be involved in that."

Last night's address will not solve the problems of the Bush presidency. It will reopen a war with Congress which the White House has probably neither the principle nor passion to win. It will not affect the president's most powerful re-election weapon: the inadequacies of the Democrats who want his job. It will not create some mystic turning point on the declining graph of the president's popularity. What is worrying is that so many people thought that it might.

...and moreover

Alan Coren

Bleak night, and I utterly alone in this even bleaker railway carriage, except for thoughts yet bleaker still; for I have just left Temple Meads.

A footnote here, lest you be caught wrong-footed as to the source of my bleakness. Though Temple Meads may sound like a Scott Fitzgerald heroine, lissom, tawny, velvet-eyed, a wayward brunette curl to stop the hearts of all West Egg, a deceptively whippy cross-court backhand, delivered, perhaps, with that same high tinkling laugh you will find lingering on the soft summer air just after she has expertly slewed her yellow roadster through a tricky chicane that would have overturned most men, she is not, I have to tell you, the sole heiress of crusty old Senator Meads, the pickle billionaire, and she is not my mistress. She is Bristol's railway station, and looks it.

And I am feeling bleak only because, though I appear to be staring out at the chill Avon night, that inward eye which is the misery of solitude is focussing upon Sir Iain Vallance, standing in the Old Bailey dock. Sporting long sideburns, a pencil moustache, a Tattersall waistcoat, two-tone shoes, gold bracelets and a diamond stickpin, the Chairman of British Telecom is up before the beak on several million charges of living off immoral earnings. But he is smirking confidently. He knows he will get away with it. The jury are all BT shareholders.

Oh, at last, you cry, we know what this is all about, this is all about the news that 25 million obscene phone calls are made annually in Britain, we were wondering about that ourselves, does it mean 25 million people are each making one dirty phone call a year, does it mean 25 thousand people are making three dirty phone calls a day, however you slice it it is all pretty unsavoury, and not the least unsavoury part is that BT is cleaning up, if only metaphorically, that is why he has put old Vallance in the dock.

But you are wrong.

Oh, very well then, you mutter, he must be on about all those mucky 0898 services, it is high time someone copped it for the epidemic of nasty little earners, what a far and horrible cry it is from that golden age when all you could get was TIM and UMP, the world is going to hell on a hand-set — but you are, I'm afraid, wrong again.

For there is more to this than meets the ear: the immorality whereof I speak lies not in pandering to the tastes of the mucky minority, but in exploiting the vulnerability of the innocent majority. In short, we are talking true corruption here: because the human desire on which BT is battening for gain does not concern the phone's improper abuse, but its proper use. It is, quite simply, our desire for the telephone itself. The irresistibility of which such wicked advantage is being taken is merely the instrument's own, because what Sir Iain knows is that if the telephone is there, the temptation to use it is overwhelming.

And because of the burgeoning of communication technology, and the communication commerce it feeds, it is there more and more. It is nearly everywhere, and any day now it will be absolutely everywhere. Last night, I slept in a small Bristol hotel which, when I last stayed in it some dozen years ago, offered only the services of a lobby booth and a diffident operator. Now you can dial Peking from your bath. I did not dial Peking, but I dialled, for who could resist? And when, a little later, I hailed a cab to take me to the station, there was a payphone in the cab; had the journey been a few yards longer, I should unquestionably have thought of someone to call.

And yes, the drift has not escaped you. I boarded the train, I threw my bag on the rack, and, as I sat down, I spotted the phone. When I say I did not need to phone, I mean only that I did not need to phone anyone, not that I did not need to phone. Oh, I fought the need for a while, but after the while had duly ebbed I lurched to the buffet, and I bought a BT phonecard, and I lurched back again, and I phoned my wife, and she said why are you phoning, and I said to tell you I'm on my way home, and she said you told me that from the bath an hour ago.

So I have returned to my bleak seat to stare out of my bleak window and think bleak thoughts about Sir Iain. I may try to ring him, in a bit.

Neither shy nor retiring

IN THE Falklands they named a day after her, in Kuwait a street. In New York on Monday night, people paid $10,000 a table to sit in the same room. Mrs Thatcher may have become a prophet without honour in her own land, but the rest of the world remains spellbound.

Mrs Thatcher was at the Waldorf Astoria to receive a Lifeline award from the Variety Club for her work for children's charities. True, she has always preferred charity to welfare, and Denis has done his bit for charity golf tournaments, but Mrs Thatcher as Mother Teresa is an unlikely vision.

The reason was apparent: thanks to her presence the dinner raised $500,000. "But for her magnetism we would have attracted much less," declared the compère. The band played "Land of Hope and Glory" (several times), Gilbert and Sullivan, but not "God Save the Queen". Anthony Quinn and Douglas Fairbanks Junior danced attendance.

The award was presented by Henry Kissinger, a man who could read his laundry-list with diplomatic gravitas. He implied that almost single-handedly she had saved the world from tyranny. Mrs Thatcher seemed to agree, and graciously thanked America for its contribution to liberty "on behalf of Britain". She then offered a 40-minute *tour d'horizon* of the new world order she had helped bring about.

After revealing how she had discovered him, she grew wistful about Mr Gorbachev. "One who blazes the trail is not always the one who in the end sees the promised land." Never mind, there are compensations. By next year, Gorbachev will probably have joined the lucrative club of former world statesmen, touring the world's most expensive hotels, presenting awards to each other.

● *Mark Tully, the BBC's veteran Delhi correspondent, is to be awarded the Padma Shree, the Indian equivalent of a CBE. It is rare for a foreigner to receive the award from the government, but for a journalist to receive it, particularly after upsetting the government so often, is an unprecedented tribute.*

Into print

DESPITE the recession in British publishing, an important new player is arriving on the scene. Anthony Cheetham, the former boss of Random Century, has wooed four of the six founder members of the original Century company to his new venture, Orion Books. Susan Lamb, head of publicity at Random Century, is the latest recruit it was disclosed yesterday. She joins Orion as marketing director.

The fast expanding Cheetham empire now has its eyes on the late Robert Maxwell's Macdonald group too. This would complete the circle, for the founders of Century worked there together before going their own way.

Sitting comfortably

THE artist Andrew Festing, whose portrait of the Queen will be unveiled today at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, was a bag of nerves when he arrived at Buckingham Palace. But within seconds of being introduced, the Queen put him at his ease by talking at length about the collection of ancient Japanese weapons owned by his late father, Field Marshal Francis Festing.

"While my father would have been flattered to think the Queen knew so much about his collection, I was astonished," says Festing who had five sittings at the palace for the 9 ft-high picture of the Queen in garter robes. The royal briefing is clearly up to scratch.

VAT '79

YESTERDAY'S spat over VAT between David Mellor, the chief secretary to the Treasury, and John Smith, the shadow chancellor, revived memories for Jim Callaghan's former aides of their lost chance in the 1979 election campaign. To the dismay of his officials Callaghan refused to deliver a speech in the 1979 election campaign accusing the Tories of planning to double VAT. As Sir Geoffrey Howe, the then shadow chancellor, had categorically denied there would be such an increase, Callaghan thought the speech would backfire. But in Howe's first Budget, VAT was increased from 8 to 15 per cent. So did Callaghan, now Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, regret his decision? "I couldn't say. I can't remember the speech."

● *The ship that fired the opening shots of the Russian Revolution may be heading for the port of London. The guns of the steam-cruiser Aurora signalled the storming of the Winter Palace. It is expected to leave dry dock in St Petersburg next year for a Western cruise, which should include a visit to the River Thames, where it may moor on the Embankment alongside HMS President 1918, the headquarters of the Inter-Action charity.*

Poetry in motion

AFTER a long row resulting in the resignation of its president, Dannie Abse, the Poetry Society is planning to move to new accommodation near Covent Garden. Sadly, this will mean the loss of the country's principal forum for poetry reading, where Cecil Day-Lewis, John Betjeman, Seamus Heaney and Stephen Spender all gave readings. If the move goes ahead, there will be no room for the traditional large gatherings.

A bitter Abse said last night: "I will have nothing more to do with the society. This breaks with the vision of the founders in 1908, who wanted to offer a large venue. If the society wants only office space, why go to Covent Garden? They may as well go to my home town of Cardiff."

MR CLINTON'S AFFAIR

America is in another stew over sex. Once again that nation's political system has thrown into relief moral questions that transcend its boundaries and absorb the outside world. As with Judge Clarence Thomas and the squalid Kennedy Smith rape case, so with Governor Bill Clinton's marriage, America's political, judicial and legal system is acting as an anvil on which the practices and prejudices of democracies everywhere are hammered out.

Conventional wisdom holds that public figures are entitled to private lives, but only up to some ill-defined point. America's liberal libel laws have meant that for most public figures there is now no such thing as privacy. Any intrusion can be validated by some tendentious linkage between private and public performance. So immediate is media technology, so omnipresent are the camera, the tape recorder and the notebook that no intimacy is sacred. Such is the heat of democracy. Those who stoke the furnace merely say that he who cannot stand it should stay back in the cool.

Governor Clinton has bitterly protested that this is too harsh. His case is that those couples who have been through marital difficulty and stayed together should not be penalised as against those who opted for divorce. While at first reluctant to reveal the nature of his own difficulty, he and his remarkably brave wife this week decided to go public, hoping that millions would identify with their struggle and not hold it against Mr Clinton in his bid for the presidency. As a desperate throw, this had a certain plausibility. The gambit held barely 24 hours: the other woman in question said Mr Clinton was talking hogwash, her own credibility being tainted but not wholly undermined by her being paid a large sum of money for her witness.

While the defining characteristic of British politics is said to be that of the club, America's is that of the mob. Britons who ridicule America's ritual torture of presidential candidates perform a similar torture on their own. But the process is largely collegiate. The crime is in "getting caught" or, more eccentrically, in "lying to the House of Commons", an activity permitted in affairs of state but not in affairs of the club. The crucial difference is that British "primaries" operate within the parliamentary cabal. Leaders are delivered up to the nation on a sanitised plate. Even then they are elected at least in part as party spokesmen and team leaders. British politics may be more "presidential" than of old, but the spotlight is nothing like as fierce as in America.

Mr Clinton is playing for the highest stakes, both domestically and internationally, in the toughest race in the world. The American president is not just a faction leader, a chief executive or a committee chairman. He is not first among equals. He is head of state, the embodiment of his nation and a reflection of its self-image. His weaknesses are thus America's to share, his shame in office would be America's shame. He is politician and royal family in one.

The American mob may seem to choose its leaders by the crudest of methods. But in the great march of world events, the responses of individuals to those events are determined as much by traits of character as by those of intellect or party affiliation. Mr Clinton's private life may or may not be to the taste of American voters, but how he performs in the crises of the presidential race is clearly some guide to his performance as a leader.

The case Mr Clinton presented on television on Sunday night was sensible in the abstract but questionable when applied to himself. It divided his audience as it would divide a British one. Some, but certainly not all, democrats expect their leaders to be flawless. But all expect them to pass muster at the court of judgment, reliability and honest dealing: they expect explanations to be convincing and performances sincere. The New Hampshire session of that court meets in three weeks, but doubts over his conduct of this wretched business will continue to hover over Bill Clinton.

STALEMATE IN MOSCOW

The Moscow stage of the Middle East peace conference is heading for failure. The subjects on the agenda are the most important since the peace process formally got underway: sharing water resources, economic development, the environment, refugees and arms control. These lie at the heart of the conflict. The Syrians and the Lebanese have refused to attend. The Palestinians, angered by the failure of the Shamir government to halt new settlements, are boycotting the opening session. President Yeltsin, in this first test of his chairmanship of an international conference, disappeared altogether, turning up on the Black Sea coast. The most that can now be hoped is that the recriminations will be kept within bounds and the whole sorry process put on ice until after the Israeli and American elections.

There is an inevitability about all this. The talks have reached stalemate just as the two sides broach the substance of the 45-year conflict. Neither the Israelis nor the Syrians are ready to yield on an equitable sharing of water, which comes mainly from the mountains of Syria and Lebanon but which the Israelis deny to Arab villagers on the West Bank. For all Israel's offers to share technology and economic development with its neighbours, the government in Jerusalem is as unlikely as that in Damascus to cut its arms budget or allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities, least of all while Iran and Iraq rearm and the big powers sell weapons to all sides. The plight of refugees will not be settled while Israel accelerates the controversial settlement of occupied territory and Arab governments make little effort to integrate refugees into their own societies.

Israel will not regret any collapse of the Moscow talks. Mr Shamir has already gained more from the peace process than he can have envisaged when he warned beforehand of being forced into dangerous concessions. He has forced the Palestinian leadership on the West Bank to sever official links with the PLO. He has turned back American criticism of intransigence. He has established relations with Peking and now has diplomatic links with all permanent members of the Security Council. He has persuaded the second-line Arab countries — Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Morocco and the Gulf states — to sit down round the negotiating table. A halt in Moscow would allow him to portray himself to voters at home as a peacemaker. Any progress now would demand he make concessions.

The losers have been the Palestinians and the Russians. The Palestinian delegates have impressed the world but have little to show to frustrated countrymen under occupation. Their moderate line is coming under pressure. Despite James Baker's acceptance that the Palestinian diaspora should be represented, they have been unable to bring into the negotiating room even residents of East Jerusalem. Because of the Syrian boycott, they are unlikely to see progress on water, the environment or agricultural development.

The Russians too have been unable to live up to the role demanded of them. This is hardly surprising when disorganisation, economic collapse and ethnic tensions at home leave little time for international affairs. But it bodes ill for any future claim to be considered a world power. As usual, the Americans are left awkwardly in the middle, trying to find areas of compromise and to pull levers of influence. Mr Baker has doggedly tied his $10 billion Israeli loan guarantee to progress, and now threatens to reduce the money substantially to halt the settlements. This has not stopped these settlements, and has thus antagonised both the Shamir government and the Palestinians. But the American administration is now engulfed in election politics. It has neither time nor stomach for new initiatives. Another peace process runs into the sand.

AN IVORY WHITE MARKET

Two years have now passed since the African elephant was singled out by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) as rare enough to deserve a ban on trade in ivory. This seemed the best way to protect the beast from extinction. So it proved at the time. The ivory price collapsed and poaching dwindled, thanks too to better security. But southern African countries with elephant populations now claim that managed trade in ivory would protect the elephant even better. Are they right?

A United Nations meeting yesterday between states with African elephants and donor countries heard that the main threat to the elephant will soon come not from poaching but from a shortage of land. In countries such as Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa, elephants and men are breeding themselves into confrontation. The problem may then be not too few elephants but too many. Zimbabwe's biggest national park, Hwange, now houses roughly double the number of elephants that it can sustain. Elephants leave the parks in search of food and trample local farmers' crops.

More and more environmental economists are saying that locals should be given incentives to protect the elephant, rather than collude with poachers to eliminate it. That may mean allowing them to farm elephants through a controlled market in ivory. If ivory trading were "decriminalised" African states could sell existing stockpiles and reinvest the money in better security against poachers and compensation to farmers. Off-loading the stockpiles would push the price down and cut poachers' profits.

The ban has probably served its primary purpose. By drawing international attention to the plight of the African elephant, it has made ivory as unpopular as mink or crocodile skin with environmentally conscious Westerners. Europe and America between them made up 40 per cent of the market for worked ivory before the ban. Demand there will never be the same again.

Even fervent supporters of the ban agree that it cannot continue indefinitely and have recently accepted that trade in non-ivory elephant products could resume. Once elephants come off the danger list and can be adequately protected, trading can be reestablished for the ivory of both farmed and culled animals. In many southern African countries, the culling process is itself being marketed to big-game hunters and the revenue chanelled back into conservation.

Science is on the elephants' side. New tests can determine from which herd a piece of ivory has come. Any new system of trading ivory from a central exchange could ensure that the product had not been poached. And scientists are beginning to develop alternatives to ivory that combine the patina and porousness needed for piano keys.

At the next CITES meeting in March, members should consider allowing trade through a central exchange that could combine control of buying and selling with policing countries to ensure that their herds were being managed sustainably. That noble animal, described by Donne as "Nature's great masterpiece", may eventually owe its survival to the value of its tusks, which once brought it near extinction.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Brussels in-fighting and the quality of EC officialdom

From Sir Roy Denman

Sir, In his letter (January 23) about the quality of the EC Commission staff, Sir Michael Ogden makes some important points. As a former Commission official I shall restrain myself on the quality of Commissioners. These have varied from the admirable to the unspeakable; in its middle of the road tradition Britain has contributed a fair share of both.

But the quality of the officials — on the whole high — is not essentially the problem. The real problems are three. The first is that however able an official he cannot be effective if his political masters do not allow him to be. Over the last six years the internal operation of the Commission has become a mess.

Backbiting among Commissioners has reached levels undreamed of in the days of François-Zavier Ortoli (1973-6) and Roy Jenkins (1977-81); political intrigue has flourished like science-fiction weed, stifling reasoned advice from senior officials; internally the Commission has come to resemble Tammany Hall with a French accent. This has to change. It will mean a new Commission. But this will depend on the member states.

The second is that increasingly member states will not allow the Commission to take on the minimum extra staff to cope with the new tasks they give it. Instead experts are seconded temporarily from member states. These will intrigue for national interests rather than seek a European solution.

The third is accountability — the democratic deficit. The European parliament has the power to sack all Commissioners on a two-thirds majority vote. It has never used this power and is not likely to. There should be real control by the European parliament over the Commission. The member states will not permit it. They regard the Commission and the European parliament as rivals in a power struggle and do their best to clip their wings.

This is not in the interests of the peoples of Europe. They are moving inexorably (with Britain as always shuffling ten years behind) to a Union where national governments will be reduced to the role of local authorities.

The citizens of the Union will have the right to expect at the centre an executive branch of high quality, efficiently administered, and directly and effectively accountable to their elected representatives. In obstructing this the national governments are short-changing the peoples of Europe. It is time they were told so.

Yours faithfully,
ROY DENMAN,
194b Avenue de Tervuren,
Bte. 15, B-1150 Brussels.
January 27.

From Mr M. J. Holden

Sir, The government already has in its hands the means to control the quality of the Commission's civil servants. Although they are nominally all recruited by open competition and owe their allegiance to the Commission — they are not national civil servants sent to Brussels — it is common practice for member states to nominate their own officials to the highest post of director-general and often also to that of director. With possibly only one exception every British director-general has been nominated in this manner.

In addition, all Commissioners, who are nominated by their member states, have their own cabinets of personal advisers, who are not civil servants. If Sir Michael Ogden objects to the decisions made by the Commission then, to a large extent, the blame lies with these "high fliers (sent) to do a stint in Brussels" because they hold the highest positions and carry the greatest influence, and also with the cabinets who, it is widely recognised, wield too much power. But finally, the decisions are those of the Commission itself. Does Sir Michael blame British civil servants for poor decisions taken by the British government?

The satisfactory promotional inducements which Sir Michael wants would be provided by stopping this practice: then those who have entered by way of the open competitions would not see their careers blocked by the filling of the top-level posts.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. HOLDEN,
15 Princess Beatrice Close,
Norwich, Norfolk.

From Mrs Katharine Elliott

Sir, There are many able Britons working in the EC institutions: the real problem is that there are not enough of them. Experience in Brussels is a valuable ingredient in career development in the civil service and since April 1990 the number of civil servants on two to three-year secondments to the Commission has nearly doubled.

Until recently the EC largely looked to lawyers and economists to fill permanent posts. However, following representations from the British government, a competition open to graduates in all subjects has been introduced and has attracted a record number of British applicants.

For its part the government has recently introduced the European Fast-Stream, a new civil service recruitment scheme: 36 are already working in government departments preparing to take EC competitions.

Yours faithfully,
KATHARINE ELLIOTT (Head of European Staffing Unit),
Cabinet Office
(Office of the minister for the civil service),
Horse Guards Road, SW1.
January 24.

British Council under the axe

From Professor James J. Hughes

Sir, I have just returned from visits to Finland and Norway, where I learned that the directors of the British Council's offices in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden are shortly to be replaced by a single regional director based in Copenhagen, and that the council's activities in each of the four countries will be reduced virtually to one-man or woman operations.

Although I realise the British Council's need to establish or expand operations in the Baltic states and Eastern Europe, I am staggered by the scale of these cuts and by their implications for British higher education. How will the Helsinki office manage with a staff of one rather than ten? Can two part-timers in Oslo ensure that we continue to attract the 1,800 Norwegian students who currently come to our universities and polytechnics, bringing with them over £10 million in tuition-fee income?

These short-sighted cuts contrast markedly with recent efforts to internationalise higher education in Finland and Norway, despite economic recession in both countries. The Norwegian government currently commits about 48 million krona (£4.25 million) to the Norwegian Business Foundation's international scholarship programme.

Finnish universities benefit from government finance for the Anglo-Finnish pilot programme of student exchange, and the Finnish government has provided funds for the Finnish Institute which opened in London last month.

It is now too late to prevent these cuts from going ahead. However, I believe that mine would not be a lone voice of protest had the British academic community known of them some months ago. I also find it lamentable that there has been so little discussion of them in the British press.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES J. HUGHES
(Deputy Vice-Chancellor),
The Registry,
University of Kent at Canterbury,
Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ.
January 23.

Labour and taxes

From Dr Steve Torrance

Sir, Roderick Hall (letter, January 25) compares the Labour party's reported plans to increase National Insurance contributions with the Maxwell Communication Corporation's fraudulently removing moneys from its employees' pension fund in order to support that company's share price. Each, he claims, is an instance of taking funds from working people's wages set aside for insurance or retirement purposes to use for other than these specific purposes.

Increasing National Insurance contributions is one of a large class of financial measures which any prospective or elected government is entitled to consider as a way to finance its spending.

But the measure is not, in itself, a form of immorality. It is no more impermissible for a government to use a part of National Insurance contributions for non-insurance purposes than it is, for example, to use part of the duty on tobacco sales for purposes other than those related to the economic costs of smoking. Or, indeed, than it is for an insurance company to raise its premium on a particular customer's policy to cover the overall costs of its operations (as opposed to the direct costs of servicing that policy).

Such a measure is clearly not the moral equivalent of removing pension-fund savings for private financial gain — that is, of an act which is conducted without the consent or knowledge of those affected, and which has attracted the most serious of criminal charges.

Yours faithfully,
STEVE TORRANCE,
13 Quermmore Road, N4.
January 26.

From Mr Merlin Willcox

Sir, The Conservative party's advertisement, "Labour's tax bombshell", has been appropriately placed today next to an article about malnutrition in hospitals. I for one would rather pay more tax and get better health care, scientific research, education, care for the environment and aid for the Third World. Whether Labour would achieve this or not is a different matter.

But the advertisement is surely intended to appeal to readers' basest instincts of greed and selfishness. It is symptomatic of all that can go wrong with democracy: people are encouraged to vote for their personal short-term benefit, instead of the long-term good of our nation and planet.

Yours truly,
MERLIN WILLCOX,
Shaftgate, Paddock Lane,
Selsey, nr Chichester, West Sussex.
January 23.

Business letters, page 19

Secondhand snobs

From Mr Rupert Ridge

Sir, I would not expect the examples of thrift given in Philip Howard's article, "Secondhand snobs" (January 24), to come as much of a surprise to many of your readers.

My undergraduate son protects himself against the cold winds of St Andrews by wearing his late grandfather's tweed suit; all our overcoats date back to the previous two generations of my family; my dinner jacket, tails and morning dress belonged to a retired colonel in my regiment who died as an old man in the 1960s (I expect them to fit perfectly in five to ten years' time) and my spectacle frames were worn by my great-uncle before my father.

Even my first name derives from a great uncle.

Yours faithfully,
RUPERT RIDGE,
Brockley Elm House, Brockley,
Backwell, Bristol, Avon.
January 24.

Art on the Tube

From Mr Abram Games

Sir, The reference to my posters for the Underground by Mr Roger Fernley (letter, January 17) sent me scurrying to my archives.

In fact my first poster was in 1937 and my last, the tiger for London Zoo, was designed in 1976 — far later than the 1960s, referred to by Mr Fernley as my "heyday".

Not only have London Transport posters changed since then: so have its services. The text on my 1937 design reads "A train every 90 seconds". And there was!

Yours sincerely,
ABRAM GAMES,
41 The Vale, NW11.
January 20.

Born to the job

From the Director General of the Imperial War Museum

Sir, I cannot help noticing, since you publish the dates in your columns, that amongst those who enjoy January birthdays is the following group (the collective noun, perhaps, is curiosity) of museum directors: Simon Jervis (Fitzwilliam) on January 9, Neil Cossons (Science) on the 15th, Richard Ormond (National Maritime) on the 16th, John Hayes (National Portrait Gallery) and myself on the 21st, and Timothy Clifford (National Galleries of Scotland) on January 26. For good measure, one can add Sir Alan Bowness (formerly Tate Gallery) on the 11th.

This is no comfort to astrologers, since we span Capricorn and Aquarius; but I wonder if any other professions display similar natal bias.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BORG,
Director General,
Imperial War Museum,
Lambeth Road, SE1.
January 26.

Sullivan and Gilbert

From Mr John F. Woodward

Sir, Mr Stephen Turnbull points out (letter, January 23) that the Gilbert anniversary was indeed celebrated in 1986: but can he, or anyone else, explain why it is that both Sullivan and D'Oyly Carte are commemorated in Embankment Gardens, near the scene of many of their triumphs, while Gilbert is not?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. WOODWARD,
21 Parkside, Mill Hill, NW7.
January 23.

From Dr Bart Smith

Sir, The 1986 exhibition to celebrate Gilbert's anniversary, referred to by Mr Turnbull, in fact took place at the British Library, not the British Museum.

Yours faithfully,
BART SMITH,
The British Library,
96 Euston Road, NW1.
January 24.

Mantegna exhibition

From Sir Roy Strong

Sir, To anyone visiting the great Mantegna exhibition at the Royal Academy the superb display of his cartoons is as though seeing them for the very first time. Indeed, it is the only occasion that it has been possible to view these supreme masterpieces as a single composition because it is impossible to stand back and see them as a whole within the narrow confines of Wren's Orangery at Hampton Court Palace.

This is a misalliance of two great works of art. The Orangery ought to be returned to its original function as part of the present restoration programme of the palace and its gardens. And a more appropriate location should be sought to exhibit Mantegna's cartoons in all their renaissance glory.

Yours faithfully,
ROY STRONG,
The Laskett, Much Birch,
Herefordshire.
January 21.

Elizabeth Cross?

From Mr Ronald Bedford

Sir, Next month sees the 40th anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Is not 1992 the year in which should be established in her name a new order of chivalry through which recognition could be given to those who have made an outstanding contribution during her reign to the arts and sciences?

We have the Victoria Cross for exceptional military achievement: why not an Elizabeth Cross for similar civil achievement?

I have the honour to be, Sir, etc.,
RONALD BEDFORD,
5 The Vale,
Broadstairs, Kent.
January 17.

Moral climate

From Ms Christine Peach

Sir, I object to your use of the adjective "fallen" in reference to the young woman involved in a recent much-publicised knifing trial (report, January 22). The word smacks of Victorian puritanism, which I feel is inappropriate in today's moral climate.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE PEACH,
10 Park Hill Road,
Ilfracombe, Devon.

Decade of Evangelism

From the Reverend James M. Lawlor

Sir, Clifford Longley (article, January 18) was stimulating as always. I would like, however, to offer an alternative view of the Decade of Evangelism from the one he presents.

For the churches together, renewal of faith ought to lead to a deepening of integrity within our particular religious traditions. We may appear as entrenched as ever, but at least we have progressed in clearing away the undergrowth of superstition and misunderstanding that often obstructs our view, allowing us to see each other's position across the doctrinal no man's land. This is an achievement in itself and one that we trust future generations of theologians will build upon.

We no longer look to "making converts", but we do still call individuals and the whole of society to conversion of heart, mind and soul; this is evangelisation.

Furthermore, our world rightly demands that we prove by our actions what we profess with our lips. Those who evangelise need a practical resolution to be with the weakest in society.

I agree fervently with Clifford Longley that our first concern is with "raw religion"; evangelisation without it is unfocused, a mere gong booming. However, true renewal should lead to a mutual respect for those who love the same Lord and a deep desire amongst them to take his peace in word and deed to all peoples.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES M. LAWLOR,
St Kessog's,
Balloch Road,
Balloch, Dunbartonshire.
January 19.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

From Mrs Erica M. Purdie

Sir, Concerning the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, how many participants realise that hard and demanding thinking is necessary before they can understand the doctrine of the Christian body to which they have given their allegiance? Until this is fully understood how can they give to others an account of their own beliefs; and how can they make any valid decision regarding Christian unity?

It is of course an easy way out to suggest that there are no valid reasons why Christians everywhere should not be in agreement, and also to equate "being warm and friendly" with being Christian.

Clifford Longley's phrase "deepening before widening" including "the pursuit of personal holiness" would seem most apposite.

Yours faithfully,
ERICA M. PURDIE,
Shearwater, Pope's Lane,
Colyford, Colyton, Devon.

Prime time

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, Your leader on old age (January 22) has got it wrong. Old age wasn't the seventh of Shakespeare's ages of man but the sixth — "the lean and slipper'd pantaloon ... etc." — which for anyone over 60, irrespective of age, will begin in about five years' time. The seventh age is dotage, a *lot* later.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBRACKEN (aged 71¼),
House of Lords.
January 22.

هكذا من الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 28: The Hon Mary Morrison has succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 28: The Princess Royal, Patron, the Incorporated Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, this morning visited the School at Pembroke Place, Liverpool and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Mr Henry Cotton).

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this afternoon visited Lyons Bakery at Barnsley, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Yorkshire (Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Neill).

The Princess Royal later opened Park Rehabilitation Centre, Badsley Moor Lane, Rotherham.

Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 28: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this afternoon attended a meeting of the Central Executive Committee held at the Association of Accounting Technicians, Clerkenwell Road, London EC1.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 28: The Duke of Gloucester today visited Norfolk and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Norfolk (Mr Timothy Colman).

In the morning His Royal Highness opened the Magistrates' Court House and Probation Office, Great Yarmouth.

In the afternoon the Duke of Gloucester opened the new accommodation for the Registrars in Churchman House, St Giles Street, Norwich and later visited "The King of Hearts" Centre for People and the Arts, Fye Bridge Street, Norwich.

His Royal Highness subsequently visited the Castle Museum, Norwich.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester this morning opened the refurbished Lucas Block at St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will preside at a meeting of the Prince's Council at 10 Buckingham Gate at 10.30.

The Princess of Wales will visit the St Christopher's Fellowship projects at 21 Cressingham Road, Lewisham, at 10.30 and 30 Belmont Hill, Lewisham, at 11.30.

Prince Edward will attend the 1992 Airline of the Year Awards at the Dorchester hotel at 6.50.

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Olympic Association, will attend the Norfolk and Suffolk Olympic Appeals' reception at Middleton Tower, King's Lynn, at 7.30 in aid of the 1992 British Olympic Appeal.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron of the Silver Walkway Trust, will attend a luncheon at Mobil Court, Clements Inn, Strand, WC2, at 12.30.

The Duke of Kent, as chairman of the United Kingdom Trustees of the Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conferences, will attend a dinner at St James's Palace at 7.30.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, will attend a concert at Queensland House, Strand, at 5.30 given by the Percussion Virtuosi.

Princess Alexandra will visit the Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen in Richmond at 11.00; and will open the London Water Control Centre of Thames Water at the Hampton Coal Wharf Complex, Lower Sunbury Road, Hampton, Middlesex, at 3.00.

Birthdays

Dr R.C. Alston, bibliographer, 59; Mr Malcolm Binns, pianist, 56; Mr Leslie Bricusse, composer and lyricist, 61; Major-General Sir George Burns, 96; Mr Peter Byrne, actor, 64; Lord Clyde, 60; Dr Alec Coppen, psychiatrist, 69; Lord Ferrier, 92; the Right Rev Charles Fitzgerald-Lombard, Abbot of Downside, 51; Dr Germaine Greer, author, 53; Lord Gregson, 68; Professor F.R. Hartley, vice-chancellor, Cranfield Institute of Technology, 50; Mr Paul Hodder-Williams, publisher, 82; Earl Howe, 41; Mr John Junkin, actor and writer, 62; Mr Sean Kerly, hockey player, 32; Mrs Margaret Laird, Third Church Estates Commissioner, 59; Lord Lane of Horsell, 67; Major-General K.F. Mackay Lewis, 95; Mr Michael Mavor, headmaster, Rugby School, 45; Mr Andy Roberts, cricketer, 41; Professor Abdus Salam, theoretical physicist, 66; Mr Raman Subba Row, former chairman, Test and County Cricket Board, 60; Viscount Tonypandy, 93; Mr Brian Trubshaw, former pilot, 68.

TONY WHITE

Musicians dedicated to reviving the sounds of the Romantic symphonic era have reformed the New Queen's Hall Orchestra, inspired by Henry Wood's orchestra founded in 1895. Members, who will employ techniques of 100 years ago, were rehearsing in London yesterday for concerts next month

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Emmanuel Swedenborg, philosopher, Stockholm, 1688; Daniel Bernoulli, mathematician, Basel, 1700; Thomas Paine, radical and writer, Thetford, Norfolk, 1737; Daniel Auber, composer, Caen, 1782; William McKinley, 25th president of the USA 1897-1901, Niles, Ohio, 1843; Anton Chekhov, dramatist, Tagarov, Russia, 1860; Frederick Delius, composer, Bradford, 1862; Romain Rolland, novelist, Nobel laureate 1915, Clamecy, France, 1866; Vincente Blasco Ibanez, writer and politician, Valencia, 1867; Havergal Brian, composer, Dresden, Staffs, 1876.

DEATHS: George III, reigned 1760-1820, Windsor castle, 1820; Edward Lear, poet and artist, San Remo, Italy, 1888; Alfred Sisley, painter Mont-sur-Loing, 1899; Douglas Haigh, 1st Earl Haigh, field marshal, London, 1928; James Bridie (pseudonym of Osborne Henry Mavor), dramatist, Edinburgh, 1951; Henry Louis Mencken, writer, Baltimore, Maryland, 1956; Fritz Kreisler, violinist, New York, 1962; Robert Frost, poet, Boston, Massachusetts, 1963.

The Victoria Cross was instituted, 1856.

University news

Queen's, Belfast

The following honorary degrees are to be awarded:

LLD: Professor Martin Harris, Vice-Chancellor of Essex; Sir Ian Fraser, consultant surgeon; Sir Brian Hutton, Lord Chief Justice of N Ireland; Dr Thomas Mitchell, Provost of Trinity College, Dublin; Sir David Orr, Chancellor of the university.

DSc: Professor Frederick Brown, Professorial Fellow of Queen's, M. Laurent Beaudoin, Chairman and chief executive of Bombardier Inc.

DLit: Mr Brian Friel, writer.
DSSc: Mr John Cole, BBC political editor.

Sainsbury Management Fellowships

The Fellowship of Engineering has awarded Sainsbury Management Fellowships to the following candidates to enable them to study for the degree of MBA at European Business Schools. They took up their respective places at INSEAD, Paris; IMD, Lausanne; and EAP, Paris, in September 1991 and January of this year:

Mr A Amin, Mr A M de Rozairo, Dr N Farahani, Ms A H Finnigan, Mr A Giustiniani, Mr M I Hill, Mr P J Macdonald, Mr C W Ogilvie Thompson, Mr M J Richards, Mr P Simms, Mr M M Sheehy, Mr R Symons, Dr I J Urua. Mr I W Whiting took up his place at the Harvard Business School in September 1991.

Memorial service

Mr Ronald Raven

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Ronald Raven was held yesterday at St Giles Cripplegate. The Dean of St Albans officiated, assisted by the Rev David Rhodes. Mr Dudley Staunton and Sir Ernest Harrison, Chairman of the Ronald Raven Trust and Chairman of Racal Electronics, read the lessons. Mr Alan Lettin gave an address. Among others present were:

Dame Kathleen Raven (sister), Mr and Mrs Stuart Fife, Mr and Mrs David Raven, Mrs Margaret Smith, Mrs Margaret Miller; Lord Walton of Detchant, Lord Smith, Cordelia Lady Greenway, Lady Lloyd of Kilgerran (Ruskin Society), Lady Heald (vice-president, Marie Curie Memorial Foundation) with Sir Malby Crofton (honorary treasurer), Mr Richard Wheeler-Bennett (chairman) and Mr M C Reid (Marie Curie Cancer Care); the Hon Mrs C Edwards, the Hon Hugh Gibson (Royal Crown Derby Porcelain Company and Royal Doulton).

Sir Terence English (president, Royal College of Surgeons) with members of the council and wardens of the college; Sir William Slack (Master, Barbers' Company) with the Wardens and members of the court and livery; Lady Avery Jones, Lady Gardner-Thorpe, Sir Ian Todd (International Federation of Surgical Colleges) and Lady Todd, Lady Vaughan, Lady Tuckwell, Sir Douglas and Lady Ranger, Dame Josephine Barnes (president, Royal Medical Benevolent Fund), Lady Wheeler, Sir David Innes Williams (Royal Society of Medicine), Air Marshal Sir Michael and Lady Stear, Lady (Raymond) Brown, Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir James Watt, Lady Harrison.

Dr Oliver Scott (treasurer, Royal Medical Foundation, Epsom College) with members of council, the headmaster and Mrs Cook and senior pupils; Miss Phyllis Cunningham (chief executive, Royal Marsden Hospital) with the Rev David Brown (senior chaplain), Sister J Ellis and other nurses and staff; Dr Bruce MacGillivray, Dr Evelyn Boesen and Mr Bryan Blatch (Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine) with Professor Richard Begent (Ronald Raven Professorial Chair, Royal Free Hospital) and Mrs Begent; Mr William Shand (director of clinical services, St Bartholomew's Hospital), Mr R D Rosin (St Mary's Hospital, Paddington), Dr Iain Hanham (Westminster Hospital) and Mrs Hanham.

Professor G Westbury (Dean, Institute of Cancer Research and President, British Association of Surgical Oncology), Major Nigel Petrie (Royal Medical Foundation), Mr Charles O'Leary (Society of Apothecaries), Mrs Olive Tyrrell (Medical Insurance Agency), Mr Charles Moore (John Grooms Association for Disabled People), Mrs Geraldine Well (Royal Medical Benevolent Fund), Mrs Sally Atkinson (BMA Charities), Dr John Martin (Merton, Sutton and Wandsworth Local Medical Committee), Miss Patricia Archer (Medical Artists Association of Great Britain), Colonel S S Macfarlane (257 General Hospital RAMC(V) with other officers; Miss M Bridgland (Distressed Gentlefolks Aid Association).

Mrs Joanne Martin (secretary, Cameron Fund, also representing the chairman), Professor Brian Fender (vice-chancellor, Keele University), Mr Keith Smith (headmaster, Aylesbury Grammar School) with Professor W R Mead (vice-chairman of the governors); Mr Harvey White (Coopers' Company), Mr Anthony Clarke (Cutlers' Company), Mr Gilbert Bradley (Derby Porcelain International Society), Professor John Last (Museum Training Institute), Mr Leonard Kingdom (1980-81 Masters Association, City of London), Mr Ronald Moorcraft (Steele, Robertson and Company), the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell.

Mrs D Staunton, Mrs A Lettin, Dr and Mrs T Rigby-Jones, Mr Michael Portillo, MP, and Mrs Portillo, Mr Simon Edgar, Miss Ann McKeever, Mrs Johanna Papp, Miss Joan Gough-Thomas, Mr Muir Hunter, QC, and Mrs Gillian Petrie-Hunter, Mr J L Reed, Mr J Marshall, Mr and Mrs Peter Lord, Mr John Whitfield, Mrs A Blandy, Dr F Clanchi, Mr H W S Horlock, Mr Owen Rowe, Mr John Foster, Mr and Mrs Ronald Johnson-Gilbert, Mrs Peter Lambert, Mr and Mrs J Wallwork and Mr and Mrs Frank Sutton.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr M. Buncombe and Miss T.M.D. Clay
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs M.D. Buncombe, of Buxted, Sussex, and Teresa, daughter of Mr J.P. Clay, of New York, and Mrs S.A. Evans, of Palo Alto, California.

Mr J.P.D. Carpenter and Miss C.J. Shuffrey
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mrs Jean Carpenter and the late Mr Keith Carpenter, of Ashtead, Surrey, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.F.D. Shuffrey, of Claygate, Surrey.

Mr A.J. Gant and Dr K.J. Willis
The engagement is announced between Andrew John, son of Mr and Mrs John Gant, of Reading, and Katherine Jane, younger daughter of Mr E.G. Willis and the late Mrs W.E. Willis, of Finchley.

Mr S.P. Hume-Kendall and Miss H.C. Baker
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of the late Dr Patrick Hume-Kendall and of Mrs Richard Rawlings, of Fordcombe, Kent, and Helen, elder daughter of the late Mr David Baker and of Mrs Marie Baker, of Martin, Hampshire.

Mr P.J. Mahaffey and Miss A.M. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mrs Miriam Mahaffey and the late Mr Leo Mahaffey, of Newmarket, Suffolk, and Sandra, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R.A. Campbell, of Belfast.

Mr W.G. Paine and Mrs G.L. Turner
The engagement is announced between Walter George Paine, of Whitstable, Kent, and Zimbabwe, and Geraldine Lucy Turner, née Hagan, of Faversham, Kent.

Mr S.G.H. Plunkett and Miss E.S. Hayward
The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of the Rev Dr Hedley and Mrs Plunkett, of County Antrim, Northern Ireland, and Emma, younger daughter of Sir Anthony and Lady Hayward, of Chilham, Kent.

Mr G.N.B. Varney and Miss L.D. Owen
The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of Mr Owen and Lady Mary Varney, of Hill House, Dedham, Essex, and Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Owen, of Whitelands Farm, Ashington, Sussex.

Marriages

Mr I.C. Bostridge and Miss L.F.E. Miller
The marriage took place on January 25, at St James's, Piccadilly, of Ian Bostridge and Lucasta Miller.

The bride was given away by her father and attended by Clara Egan and Clemency Henty. Mr Alexander Bird was best man.

A reception was held at Boodle's Club.

Colonel G.A.G. Gilhead and Mrs I.M.K.I. Zoghbi-Engeström
The marriage took place in Brighton, on January 27, 1992, between Colonel Geoffrey Gilhead and Mrs Inken Katarina Zoghbi-Engeström, both of Brighton, Sussex.

Wing Commander J. Meehan, RAF and Flight Lieutenant A.T. Sykes, WRAF
The marriage took place on Friday, January 24, 1992, of Wing Commander John Meehan and Flight Lieutenant Amanda Sykes. The wedding and reception were attended by family and close friends.

Lord Mayor at The Times

The Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Brian Jenkins, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their ladies, last night visited the London offices of *The Times* and toured the plant. They were received by Sir Edward Pickering, Executive Vice-Chairman of Times Newspapers, and Mr Simon Jenkins, Editor of *The Times*.

Dinner

National Sporting Club
Mr Bob Willis, Chairman of the National Sporting Club, presided at a Burns Night Boxing dinner held last night at the Café Royal. Lord Forte, chairman of the council, was present.

Peter Willes

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Peter Willes, OBE, (1913-1991), will be held at St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, at 11.30 am, Tuesday, February 11. All are welcome.

Reception

Quest Cancer Test
Mr Jerry Hayes, MP, was host at a reception held yesterday at the House of Commons for the Quest Cancer Test charity. Mr S.J. Steele and Dr A.M. Sincock, Senior Research Fellow, University College London, were the speakers.

City Women's Network

City Women's Network, the leading London-based professional women's networking group, is holding a New Members' Drinks Party on Tuesday, February 18, from 6.30-8.30pm, at the Foreign Press' Association. Prospective new members should contact Leslie Mitchell on 071-223 0425 for details.

Appointments

Michael Cooper to be Director General of the British Diabetic Association and Verity Haines to be Director of Fundraising.

Bless our God, you nations: let the sound of his praise be heard: He preserves us in life: he keeps our feet from stumbling.
Psalm 66:8,9 REB

BIRTHS

ACHESON - On January 8th, at Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon, to Cynthia (née Danlic) and Colin, a son, Nicholas Edward. Our sincere thanks to all medical staff involved.

ATKEY - On January 27th, at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, to Alison (née Foden) and Jonathan, a son, a brother for William.

BARNETT - On January 26th, to Brontë and Charles, a son, Hector, a brother for Rosie.

BENTLEY - On January 22nd at As Salam International Hospital, Cairo, to Mhairi (nee McEwan) and Phillip, a daughter, Naomi Frances.

BROADBENT - On January 22nd, to Mitzi (née Sims) and Antony, a daughter, Charlotte Barbara.

BROWN - On January 28th 1992, to Sara and Richard, a son, Matthew Bridgmore.

BUNTING - On January 26th, to Sarah (née Hunt) and Tim, a daughter.

GYDE - On January 28th, at Withybush Hospital, Havesford West, to Suzy and Nicolas, a son, Louis Joseph.

HEXT - On January 25th, in Sydney, Australia, to Ann and Richard, a son, Jonathan Michael Buller, a brother for James and William.

HOATH - on January 23rd to Helen (née Megginson) and William, a daughter, Harriet Elizabeth.

MacDONALD-RAGGETT - On December 18th 1991, to Sean and Bernadette, a son, Liam Alexander Sean.

MILL - On January 23rd, to Janey (née Watson) and Peregrine, a daughter, Francesca, a sister for Carina and Imogen.

WHALLEY - On January 19th, to Sonia (nee Wells) and John, a daughter, Charlotte.

DEATHS

ANDREWS - On Sunday January 26th 1992, peacefully at home with his family after a stoic and dignified fight against cancer, Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Edward Patrick (Ted), M.B.E., Royal Signals (ret'd), aged 66 years. Deeply loved husband of Jackie, devoted and much loved father of Sue, Richard, Gillie and John, special brother of Terry and dearly loved grandad of Isle, Sophie, Thomas and Robert. Funeral Service on Thursday January 30th at St Joan of Arc, Farnham at 11.30 am followed by burial at St Peter's Church, West Liss at 2 pm. Donations and flowers to S.S.A.F.A. and Marie Curie Foundation, c/o H.C. Patrick & Co., 86 East Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7TP. tel: (0252) 714884. Requiescat in Pace.

BROWN - On January 27th, suddenly, Oliver Myles Russell, husband of Ann and father of Rory and Hugh. Funeral arrangements later. Please, no flowers; he would wish friends to open a bottle instead.

CAMPBELL - On January 27th, peacefully in a nursing home, Tom Vansittart of Sheringham aged 81. Cremation private, no flowers or letters please.

COOPER - On January 26th 1992, peacefully, Jean Mellor, formerly Holden, née Standring

COLE - On January 26th 1992, peacefully in his sleep after a long illness borne with great courage and patience, Dr. Russell Cole, formerly of 2 Harley Street, London. A family funeral will take place on Monday February 3rd. Flowers to Torbay & District Funeral Service, Wellswood House, 11 Babbacombe Road, Torquay or donations to The Parkinson's Disease Association. A Memorial Service will be held in London at a date to be announced later.

COX - On January 24th, Gordon, F.R.C.S., M.B., B.Chir., peacefully surrounded by his family, in his 70th year, at St Wilfrid's Hospice, Chichester. Very dear husband of Patsy, father of Amanda, Andrew, Michael, Adrian and Desmond, father-in-law of Christopher and grandpa to Oliver and Jack. Funeral at St Peter and St Pauls Church, Chichester, on Friday January 31st 1992 at 3.15pm, followed by private committal at Chichester Crematorium. Family flowers only. If desired donations direct to St Wilfrid's Hospice, Chichester.

DALTON - On January 27th, Sir Vice Admiral N.E. Dalton, K.C.B., O.B.E., much loved father of Celia and David, father-in-law of Paul and grandfather of Hugo, James, Jonathan, Thomas and Michael. Funeral at The Church of the Sacred Heart, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon., at 11 am on Monday February 3rd.

DARE - On Monday 27th January 1992 at The Charing Cross Hospital, Doreen ST.Felix (nee Malone-Lee) in her 84th year. Beloved wife of John ST.Felix and mother of Julian, Simon and Diana Donovan. A Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 11 AM on Friday, 31st January at the Carmelite Church, 41 Kensington Church Street, W8. Followed by the burial at Gunnersbury Cemetery. No letters, please, but flowers and enquiries to A.France & Son Ltd, 45 Lambs Conduit Street WC1. Tel:071 405 4901.

DICKS-MIREAUX - On January 26th, Marie-José, as in life, with courage and kindness to the end. Dearly beloved wife of Leslie, mother of Claire, Odile and Louis-David and grandmother of James, Helen, Sarah, Josie, Holly and Jessica. Funeral at East Dean, West Sussex on Saturday, February 1st at 12 noon. Flowers and enquiries to Ballard Funerals, Tel 071-370 6271.

ELLIS - On January 25th 1992, after a long illness bravely borne with courage and determination, David Robert Taylor, aged 27 years. Dear son of John and Ann and a loving brother of Jane. Affectionate grandson of Mabel. Will be greatly missed by all. Funeral Service on Friday January 31st at Holy Trinity Church, Northwood at 3.15 pm, followed by interment at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. Enquiries T.A. Ellement & Son Ltd, tel: 081-866 0324.

FAIRMAN - On January 24th at Paddington Community Hospital, Dorothy Ellen, beloved mother of Robin and Serina and grandmother of Anthony, Harvey, Lisa, Paul, Sam and Sharon. Funeral at 12 noon on Thursday January 30th at Edgwarebury Cemetery, Edgwarebury Lane, Mill Hill. No flowers please but donations, if wished, to Cancer Research

EVERIST - On January 24th, peacefully at home, Charles Henry, aged 89 years. Dear husband of Dorothy, loving father of Mary and Michael and grandfather of Katie, Giles, Rachel and Rob. Funeral Service at the Church of St Peter and St John the Baptist, Wivelsfield, Sussex, on Thursday January 30th at 11 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired to St Wilfrids Hospice, 2 Mill Gap Road, Eastbourne.

FFRANGCON-DAVIES - On January 27th 1992, peacefully at her home in Stambourne, Essex, Gwen Lucy Ffrangcon-Davies D.B.E., Actress, aged 101. Dearest aunt of Nan and Heather. Funeral Service in Stambourne Parish Church and interment thereafter on Thursday January 30th at 2.30 pm. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held in London at a later date. Flowers from family and close friends should be sent direct to the Cottage, but if preferred, donations in lieu may be sent to The Treasurer, Stambourne P.C.C., Tinkers, Wesley End, Stambourne, Essex.

FISHER - On January 28th 1992, Joan Fisher, aged 93, widow of Lt. Col. Claude Percy Fisher, R.A.V.C., M.R.C.V.S., former Director Sudan Veterinary Service of Jenner's Cottage, Poulton, Gloucestershire, daughter of Thomas Harris Wrangham and his wife Louisa Sennett, mother of Sheelah Fisher de Avendaño and grandmother of Luis, Miguel and Sylvia. Funeral at Poulton Parish Church on Friday January 31st at 2.30 pm. Letters to Ribera Del Manzanares, 8, 28008 Madrid, Spain.

FLEW - On January 27th, peacefully at Old Wall Cottage, Betchworth, Peter Frederick Score, beloved husband of Esther, father of David, Michael and Judy, grandfather and great-grandfather. Cremation at Leatherhead Crematorium on Monday February 3th at 12.30. Enquiries to Sherlocks, tel: 0306 882266.

GOW - On January 27th, peacefully in Amersham Hospital, Ida Constance (Peggie) aged 88 years. Funeral at All Saints Church, Coleshill, on Friday February 7th at 12 noon. Peggie was a wonderful friend to all who knew her and will be sadly missed. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Christian Aid, c/o Cooks Funeral Service, 72 Broad Street, Chesham, Bucks., tel: (0494) 791359.

HOWARD - On January 27th, Christa (the painter Christa Gaa), dearly loved wife of Ken Howard, peacefully, after an illness courageously borne, in Cologne. Family funeral in Cologne. No flowers but donations to The Artists' General Benevolent Institute, Burlington House, London W1V 0DJ. Memorial Service to be held in London. Details to be announced later.

McGRATH - On January 24th, at the Royal Masonic Hospital, Martha Jane 'Marti' (née Mooney), beloved mother, grandmother and friend. All are most welcome to Requiem Mass on Friday February 7th. Details from W S Bond, tel: (081) 994-0277.

STOLLER - On January 25th, peacefully, Ivor, in his 92nd year, at Parklands Nursing Home, Salford, Greater Manchester, father of Lucille and Norman, father-in-law of Leon and Diane

DEATHS

MESSERVY-WHITING - On January 27th 1992, peacefully at Liss, Hampshire, after a short illness, Kathleen Julie, aged 84, beloved wife of Gerald and mother of Graham and Geraldine. Funeral on Thursday January 30th at 3.30 pm at Aldershot Crematorium. Flowers to Thorne & Leggett, Petersfield Road, Whitehill, Bordon, tel: (0420) 473404.

MURRAY - On January 27th 1992, suddenly at Helensburgh, Ronald, only son of the late Dr. Ian Murray and Mrs Jean Murray. Funeral Service at West Kirk, Helensburgh, on Friday January 31st 1992 at 12 noon, thereafter to Bishopton Cemetery arriving approximately 1.30 pm. No letters please. Family flowers only.

PALMER CHAPMAN - On January 27th 1992, peacefully at Broadwindsor House, Broadwindsor, Dorset, Aileen Frances Tyiston (née Hodgson) aged 92, formerly of Higher Waterston, Dorchester. Widow of Francis Romer Turner and Frank John Palmer Chapman. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Service of Thanksgiving to be held on Wednesday February 5th at 2 pm at St John the Baptist Church, Broadwindsor. Donations if desired to The Hunt Servants Benefit Society, Parsloes Cottage, Baggendon, Cirencester GL7 7DU.

PRESTON - On January 27th, peacefully at Priory Court Residential Home, Ewell, Phyllis Preston M.B.E., aged 86, formerly Liberal Party Press Officer. Funeral Service at United Reformed Church, London Road, Ewell, at 3 pm on Monday February 3rd. Any flowers to Longhursts, Ewell by 1 pm or donations for Priory Court Welfare Fund.

ROSE - On January 28th 1992, in Chichester, Lily, aged 98, widow of Douglas. Service at 11 am Friday February 7th at Chichester Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Wilfrid's Hospice, c/o Whites, 5 South Pallant, Chichester

SAUNDERS - On January 26th, peacefully, Lt. Col. M.R. (Bill) D.S.O., late Royal Artillery, aged 77, beloved husband of Pat, father of Peter, Jennifer and Stephen, father-in-law of Sheila and Theresa, grandfather of Emma, Amanda, Nicholas and Philippa. No flowers please, donations to the Coxswain Humber Lifeboat R.N.L.I., Spurn Point, Humberside.

STOKES - On January 27th 1992, peacefully at Mottisfont, Devizes, Arabella (Arbelle) Stokes, wife of the late Adrian Stokes, beloved mother of Peter, Anne, Sally and Michael, and much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Cremation private. Memorial Mass at The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Devizes, at 11.30 am on Tuesday February 4th. Flowers to Winchcombe, 57 New Park Street, Devizes, Wilts.

WALKER - On Saturday January 25th, peacefully at Charing Cross Hospital, Maureen, aged 46. Beloved daughter of Nancy and John, wonderful sister of Linda and Johnnie, Kathryn and Robbie's auntie "Mo". She was a very special person and loved so much. Funeral at South West Middlesex Crematorium, Hounslow Road, Hanworth, on Monday February 3rd at 2.10. A Memorial Service will be arranged later. Flowers to T.H. Sanders and Higgs, 153 Heath Road, Twickenham, TW1 4BH or donations to Bone Marrow Transplantation Unit, Charing Cross Hospital (acc no. DG72).

WHITAKER - On January 25th, Louise Evelyn of Cadogan Square, London. Funeral at St Mary's Church, South Baddesley, nr. Lymington, on Friday January 31st at 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for St Mary's Church, South Baddesley, may be sent c/o F.W. House & Sons, 33-34 St Thomas' Street, Lymington, Hants.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

STEVENSON - Sir Melford and Lady (Rosalind). A Service to dedicate the Memorial Tablet erected in their memory will be held at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Rye, East Sussex, on February 15th 1992 at 3 pm. The Service will be followed by a reception at The George Hotel, Rye, at which all their friends will be welcome

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

HACKETT, Cliff. 29th January 1988, lovingly remembered this day and every day. Joanne and Adam.

ROWLANDSON - Sir Stanley Graham, January 29th 1986. Sadly missed and always remembered. Vera, Richard, Elisabeth, Katherine and Edward.

LEGAL NOTICES

DRAGON GRAPHICS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at: Melrose House, 42 Dingwall Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 2NE on 7 February 1992 at 10.00 am for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receiver under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.
Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
(a) they have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than noon on 6 February 1992, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
(b) there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his or her behalf.
Please note that the original proxy signed by or on behalf of the creditors must be lodged at the address mentioned, photocopies (including faxed copies) are not acceptable.
Dated. 22/1/92
N J Vooght
Joint Administrative Receiver

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Fairbase Limited
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Ernst & Young, 10th Floor, York House, on February 12, 1992 at 11.00am for the purposes provided for in Sections 48 and 49 of the said Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
For the purposes of voting a statement of claim must be lodged with us not later than 5.00 pm on the business day before the meeting. Any proxy intended to be used should be lodged with us prior to the meeting. Statements and proxies should be lodged with Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.
Dated: January 24, 1992
A R Bloom and T C Carter
Joint Administrative Receivers

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Abbey Corporation Limited
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Ernst & Young, 10th Floor, York House, on February 12, 1992 at 11.00 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 48 and 49 of the said Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
For the purposes of voting a statement of claim must be lodged with us not later than 5.00 pm on the business day before the meeting. Any proxy intended to be used should be lodged with us prior to the meeting. Statements and proxies should be lodged with Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.
Dated: January 24, 1992
A R Bloom and T C Carter
Joint Administrative Receivers

IN THE MATTER OF
INSTANT SHOPFRONTS (BROMLEY) LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above-named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 21 February 1992, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and description, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned David Julian Buchler, of Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
21 January 1992
DAVID JULIAN BUCHLER
Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF
MORGAN & KENNEDY LTD
(In Liquidation)
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that John Donald Coleman of St. Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London EC4P 4BN, were appointed Joint Liquidator of the above named company on 14th November 1991.
Creditors are required on or before 21st February 1992 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts to the liquidator, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are to come in and prove their debts or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debtors are proved.
John Donald Coleman
Joint Liquidator
N.B. This notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been, or will be paid in full.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF
SOLARPRIOR LEISURE LTD
(In Liquidation)
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that John Donald Coleman and David Alan Ralph of St. Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London EC4P 4BN, were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named company on 10th January 1992.
Creditors are required on or before 2nd March 1992 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts to the liquidator, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are to come in and prove their debts or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debtors are proved.
Dated this 22nd day of January 1992
John Donald Coleman
Joint Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF
INSTANT SHOPFRONTS (BROMLEY) LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 21 January 1992 I David Julian Buchler of Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company by the members and creditors.
Date 21 January 1992
D J BUCHLER

L.C. TOPPIN
INVESTMENTS LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice is hereby given, that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 1st day of March, 1992 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses, and descriptions, full particulars of their debts and claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Brian Reginald Anthony Callaghan of Chantrey Vellacott Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF the Liquidator of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved. (This notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been, or will be, paid in full).
DATED this 17th day of January 1992
B.R.A. Callaghan, Liquidator.

NEWTOWN SIDELOADERS (NORTHERN) LIMITED
We, David Alastair Thomas Wood and Peter Scholey Dunn of Latham Crossley & Davis Latham Crossley & Davis, Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens, Manchester, M3 2LE, were appointed joint administrative receivers of Newtown Sideloaders (Northern) Limited, Registered number 1804425, by the National Westminster Bank PLC on 21st January 1992 pursuant to a debenture dated 7th August 1991 giving the holders a fixed and floating charges over the assets of the company.
D.A.T. Wood, P.S. Dunn,
Joint Administrative Receivers

NEWTOWN FORKTRUCKS LTD
We, David Alastair Thomas Wood and Peter Scholey Dunn of Latham Crossley & Davis Latham Crossley & Davis, Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens, Manchester, M3 2LE, were appointed joint administrative receivers of Newtown Forktrucks Limited, Registered number: 1721922, by the National Westminster Bank PLC on 21st January 1992 pursuant to a debenture dated 7th August 1991 giving the holders a fixed and floating charges over the assets of the company.
D.A.T. Wood, P.S. Dunn,
Joint Administrative Receivers

Notice of Appointment of Liquidator
Voluntary winding up (Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of The Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2432561.
Name of company: Salt & Steam Ltd. Nature of business: Ship Repairers/Locomotive Restorers. Address of registered office: Treviot House 186-192, High Road, Ilford, Essex. Type of Liquidation: Creditors. Liquidator: A. Segal Treviot House 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Office Holder No: 002689. Date of appointment: 20 January 1992. By whom appointed: The Members and Creditors. Date: 20 January 1992.

Notice of Intended Dividend
J WHITEHEAD & SONS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above-named company intends declaring a second and final dividend to creditors before 31 May 1992. The creditors of the company are required, on or before 29 February 1992 to submit their proofs of debt to the undersigned C Morris of Touche Ross & Co., PO Box 810, Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2NP, the Liquidator of the company and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the Liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt before the date mentioned above is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the second and final dividend or any other dividend declared before his debt is proved.
Date: 24-1-92
C Morris - Liquidator
Ref: RAB/L1096/lec

Notice of Appointment of Administrators
Parc Securities (Grosvenor Street) Limited
Registered number: 2253266. Nature of Business: Property Investment. Trade classification: 38. Date of Administration Order: 13 January 1992. Joint Administrators D J Buchler & I P Phillips. Office holder numbers: 002636 & 003134 of: Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF.

RE: FIRM BUILDERS MERCHANTS LIMITED
and
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at The Parkside Hotel, 470-473 Bath Road, Bristol, BS4 3HQ, on Monday the 10th February 1992, at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JQ between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from Thursday 6th February 1992.
Dated this 20th day of January 1992
R Davis, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
CAVENDISH & CASTLE RETAIL Ltd
Registered Number: 02083167.
In accordance with Section 46(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, We William Morys Roberts and Alan Robert Bloom of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU, hereby give notice that:
On January 22, 1992 we were appointed by National Westminster Bank Plc administrative receivers of the above-named company under the power contained in a fixed and floating charge, over the whole of the company's assets and dated June 1, 1987.
Date January 22, 1992
W.M. Roberts and A.R. Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
SUPERCARDS Ltd
Registered Number: 01016713
In accordance with Section 46(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, We William Morys Roberts and Alan Robert Bloom of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU, hereby give notice that:
On January 22, 1992 we were appointed by National Westminster Bank Plc administrative receivers of the above-named company under the power contained in a fixed and floating charge, over the whole of the company's assets and dated October 16, 1987.
Date January 22, 1992
W.M. Roberts and A.R. Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers

The Insolvency Act 1986
L. C. TOPPIN
INVESTMENTS LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Brian Reginald Anthony Callaghan of Chantrey Vellacott Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by a resolution of the company's members on 17 January 1992.
Dated this 17th day of January 1992
B.R.A. Callaghan, Liquidator.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
ACE OF CARDS Ltd
Registered Number: 01228291
In accordance with Section 46(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, We William Morys Roberts and Alan Robert Bloom of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU, hereby give notice that:
On January 22, 1992 we were appointed by National Westminster Bank Plc administrative receivers of the above-named company under the power contained in a fixed and floating charge, over the whole of the company's assets and dated May 4, 1987.
Date January 22, 1992
W.M. Roberts and A.R. Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
GREETING CRAFTS Ltd
Registered Number: 01221173
In accordance with Section 46(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, We William Morys Roberts and Alan Robert Bloom of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU, hereby give notice that:
On January 22, 1992 we were appointed by National Westminster Bank Plc administrative receivers of the above-named company under the power contained in a fixed and floating charge, over the whole of the company's assets and dated May 4, 1987.
Date January 22, 1992
W.M. Roberts and A.R. Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
QUANEW Ltd
Registered Number: 01251707
In accordance with Section 46(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, We William Morys Roberts and Alan Robert Bloom of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU, hereby give notice that:
On January 22, 1992 we were appointed by National Westminster Bank Plc administrative receivers of the above-named company under the power contained in a fixed and floating charge, over the whole of the company's assets and dated May 4, 1987.
Date January 22, 1992
W.M. Roberts and A.R. Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Notice of appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers
CAVENDISH & CASTLE Plc
Registered Number: 01970730
In accordance with Section 46(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, We William Morys Roberts and Alan Robert Bloom of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU, hereby give notice that:
On January 22, 1992 we were appointed by National Westminster Bank Plc administrative receivers of the above-named company under the power contained in a fixed and floating charge, over the whole of the company's assets and dated February 17, 1987.
Date January 22, 1992
W.M. Roberts and A.R. Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
Lakeland Sailing Centre Limited
Registered Number: 886748.
Trading names: Lakeland Sailing Limited; Lakeland Forest and Garden. Nature of business: Yacht building and broking. Trade classification: 39. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 16 January 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: The Bank of Scotland. Joint Administrative Receivers Gordon Iain Bennet and Alan Rae Dalzell Jamieson (office holder nos: 6706 and 5925). Address: 1 Blythswood Square, Glasgow, G2 4AD.

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OBITUARIES

AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR EDGAR LOWE

Air Vice-Marshal Sir Edgar (Noel) Lowe, KBE, CB, a former director-general of supply co-ordination at the Ministry of Defence, died on January 23 aged 86. He was born on December 22, 1905.

THE fall of France to the Germans in 1940 began the blackest period of the war, in more senses than one, for Ted Lowe who escaped from the advancing Wehrmacht in a Welsh coal ship. He had crossed the Channel in September 1939, a young squadron-leader in Nantes, tasked with supplying and supporting RAF units of the British Expeditionary Force. In the following year, however, with the BEF and the French in full retreat, Lowe found himself responsible for the evacuation of all British servicemen and civilians in the region.

He and his commanding officer were the last to leave, driving in the CO's car on a hair-raising dash to La Rochelle, while an airman manning a machine-gun took up the back seat. At the Biscay port they commandeered two colliers bound for Newport after a fierce argument with recalcitrant French officers on the dockside. The bad news was that the freighters still had coal in them. Even so, Lowe managed to cram 800 of the British into each, once all luggage had been abandoned on the quayside.

Food was pooled on the perilous voyage home, with everyone rationed to one meal of stew a day. For most of the time they sheltered below decks in the coal, while those on deck watched out for enemy bombers. Three days later, however, they reached Newport in safety and Lowe was subsequently mentioned in dispatches for his part in a distinctly gritty getaway.

This was not the first time that his organising ability had been tested. Four years previously he had been at Quetta, now in Pakistan, at the time of a severe earthquake in the area. The nickname "Neechi", derived from the Hindi word for "low", stayed with him for the rest of his life.

Ted Lowe was a Shropshire lad, born near Church Stretton. He started out as a local government accountant, working in the council offices in Birmingham. But his eye was caught by a recruiting advertisement at the time when the still youthful RAF was beginning to expand in the 1930s.

He joined the equipment branch and in 1934 was posted to Quetta for four years. He returned in the year of Munich to the RAF staff college and went straight from there with the BEF to France.

He spent the rest of the war in this country, confirming his reputation for incisive decision-making. This was recognised in 1945 by his appointment to the crucial post of director of organisation (forecasting and planning) at a time when the RAF was being reshaped for peace and the jet age.

He was ADC to King George VI, then to the present Queen, and marched in the 1953 coronation parade. He served on the directing staff of the RAF Staff College, Bracknell, 1950-51, and, in the mid-1950s returned to France as deputy assistant chief of staff (logistics) at Nato's Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe (Shape). He was senior air staff officer at 41 group in RAF Maintenance Command at Andover, before being given command of 41 group at Bicester. Then in 1961 he became director-general equipment at the Air Ministry — the top job in his branch. He was knighted in 1962 and retired from the RAF two years later.

He was almost immediately plucked from retirement, however, by the recently reconstituted Ministry of Defence, first as inspector-general of codification and standardisation and then as director-general of supply co-ordination. Although neither job sounds glamorous or heroic, each lay at the heart of the Whitehall reforms introduced by the outgoing Conservative government and continued by the new defence secretary Denis Healey.

The role was demanding because it meant banging the heads of the three services together in an effort to eradicate tribal instincts and establish common buying policies and standards. But Lowe was a passionate believer in the cause. Not easily given to compromise, he pressed ahead with a missionary zeal which showed why he had been hand-picked for the job. Not for nothing did his opponents call him "Tiger".

Ted Lowe retired finally in 1970 and devoted himself to voluntary work at home. He had married, in 1948, Squadron Officer Mary Lockhart, a WAAF officer who was serving with him in Stafford. He is survived by her, their son (the BBC television newscaster Chris Lowe) and by one daughter.

'CHAMPION' JACK DUPREE

"Champion" Jack Dupree, American blues singer and pianist, died in Hanover on January 21 aged 81. He gave July 4, 1910, as his date of birth.

SWAGGERING and rumbustious, "Champion" Jack Dupree belonged to the generation of durable musicians who pursued their craft in semi-obscurity for decades before being feted in the blues revival of the Sixties. A former professional boxer, he possessed an unadorned but hard-hitting keyboard technique and an ample store of anecdotes, doubles entendres and gold teeth.

Dupree's parents were killed shortly after his birth in New Orleans when their home was attacked by members of the Ku Klux Klan. The boy was raised in the orphanage — the Colored Waifs' Home — where Louis Armstrong began his career as a cornet player. Like Armstrong, Dupree also chose to give Independence Day as his birthday.

He was said to have been introduced to the piano by a priest at the home, and began to develop his skills by listening to local musicians. He was eventually able to make a living as an itinerant barrelhouse piano player. A less frenetic variant of boogie-woogie, "barrelhouse" was named after the boxcar-like saloons that were set up in lumber camps, and which one historian was to describe as "a combination dance-hall, crap-game dive and whorehouse".

In his twenties Dupree moved north permanently, settling in Indianapolis, where he was influenced by a popular blues singer and pianist, Leroy Carr. Unable to support himself from music, he turned to boxing, competing in more than 100 bouts as a welterweight. In 1940 he was able to abandon the ring after being signed by a talent scout for a Chicago-based music company.

Dupree made his first recordings for the 'Travelin' Man label that year. Among the titles were "Junker's Blues", a tune that later inspired Fats Domino's first hit "Fat Man". Some of the other songs dealt with such diverse topics as Roosevelt's Works Project Administration or life in a chain gang. Dupree, incidentally, bore a half-finished tattoo on his arm as a memento of a 30-day sentence in the Indianapolis state penitentiary. The tattooist was said to have been sent to the electric chair before he had an opportunity to complete the design.

One of Dupree's most popular recordings, "All Alone Blues", was issued in 1941. Soon afterwards he was drafted into the Navy. After his ship was sunk in the Pacific he was taken prisoner by the Japanese. When he returned to civilian life, he settled in New York, working with musicians including the guitarist Brownie McGhee. Arguably his best studio work of the post-war era came in 1958, when he recorded the album *Blues from the Gutter* for the Atlantic label. Featuring the alto saxophonist Pete Brown, the disc is now regarded as an early example of the so-called "concept album".

The following year Dupree made his first tour of Europe, where he and his contemporaries were treated with a degree of reverence that was generally lacking in America. He was to become a denizen of Airways Mansions, a now-defunct hotel in the West End of London where visiting blues artists tended to congregate, and where they were supplied with bottles of liquid refreshment from admirers, reporters and would-be musicians. He remained a fixture on the blues and jazz circuit, at various times teaming up with the popular trombonist Chris Barber and the guitarist John Mayall. The new breed of rhythm and blues-influenced rock stars, such as the Rolling Stones, also sought him out to pay their respects.

Dupree made his home in Halifax, Yorkshire, sharing a council house with his wife Shirley, as well as with many musicians who were passing through on tour. After the couple's separation in the mid-1970s, he moved to the Continent, where he continued to perform in public. In between his frequent tours he also developed a taste for painting.

Dupree leaves three daughters, who live in Britain.

SIR ERIC CHEADLE

Sir Eric Cheadle, CBE, deputy managing director of the International Thomson Organisation, 1959-74, died on January 25 aged 83. He was born on May 14, 1908.

ERIC Cheadle was jointly responsible with Denis Hamilton, then editor of *The Sunday Times*, for beginning an era of expansion in the Sunday's size and circulation that was to herald a transformation of the newspaper industry. The development of a colour magazine, then seen as a risk, but one worth taking, was an example that others were to follow. Increased pages gave journalists more opportunities. Cheadle's role was to ensure that new presses arrived in time to handle the increased paging. He had to negotiate with the print unions, and persuade reluctant newsagents to handle the new magazine which they saw as likely to threaten the sales of other publications and therefore their own profits.

Cheadle served 50 years with what was essentially the same company. At the age of 16 he had joined it when it was Hulton's and saw it transformed first into Allied Newspapers, then into Kemsley Newspapers, and finally into Thomson. He was quintessentially a newspaper manager of the "hot metal" era, retaining to the end a fervent interest in the industry, its gossip and its changing fortunes. Eric Wallers Cheadle was born in Lancashire. Educated at Farnworth Grammar School, in 1924 he started his life in newspapers as a tea and copy boy on the *Evening Chronicle* in Manchester and became a junior reporter. By 1938 he was "publicity manager-in-chief" for the Allied Newspapers group.

In 1947, after war service in the RAFVR, he was invited by Gomer Berry, the first Viscount Kemsley, to come to London as a director and general manager of Kemsley Newspapers.

Cheadle quickly became a leading manager on the national newspaper scene and a member of the council of the Newspaper Publishers' Association, the trade body for national newspapers, on which he served for 27 years until his retirement. Unusually for a Fleet Street manager he was also at home in the regional press and was a member of the council of the Newspaper Society from 1959 to 1978 and its president for 1970-71.

Although his role in Kemsley and the trade associations meant that he became involved in most aspects of the business, including the purchase of newsprint and negotiations with the trade unions, with whom relations were then often stormy, Cheadle's part lay in the publicity side of the business and in particular promotions designed to increase circulation.

He was fond of recalling his astonishment at being summoned by Lord Kemsley in 1959 to be told, without any prior warning, that Kemsley had sold out to Roy Thomson, then very much an unknown quantity in the UK. Thomson's aggressive plans for expansion gave increased scope for his promotional skills. *The Sunday Times* in particular soon embarked on an all-out campaign to draw away in circulation terms from *The Observer*, its main rival, with increased paging and substantial investment in lengthy serialisations. Then came the launch of *The Sunday Times* colour magazine.

Though as a Thomson director he supported the diversification of the Thomson group in the 1960s, into, for example, magazines periodicals, books and travel, he always reserved his warmest affection and interest for the newspapers.

Cheadle had another strand to his life — a remarkable record in fund-raising for charity nationally and locally. The total sum he raised over the years is certain to be measured in millions. Cheadle was above all a pragmatic and gregarious extrovert, whether in the fund-raising field or in negotiation with the unions.

He was appointed CBE in 1973 and knighted in 1978.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela, and two sons.

Judge Eric McLellan

JUDGE Eric McLellan, circuit judge, has died aged 73. He was born in Newport, Monmouthshire, on April 9, 1918.

As a barrister McLellan specialised in medical cases, frequently representing doctors facing disciplinary charges before the General Medical Council. As a circuit judge he sat mostly in Portsmouth and was an official referee on the Western Circuit.

Educated at Newport High School and New College, Oxford, he was a wireless operator in the RAF in the second world war, serving as a flight lieutenant in North Africa and Italy. After the war he was called to the Bar in 1946 and became a county court judge in 1970.

He is survived by his wife, Elsa Sarah, and a son and a daughter.

Subedar Barkat Singh, GC

SUBEDAR Barkat Singh, GC, has died at Mansurpur, Punjab, aged 87. He was born on December 16, 1904.

Barkat Singh was serving with the 2nd Punjab Regiment in 1937 when he performed the act of bravery which earned him the Edward Medal (subsequently translated to George Cross). On May 2 of that year a sepoy of the regiment suddenly went beserk and shot the guard commander and another sepoy, killing the former instantly and mortally wounding the latter.

Unarmed though he was, Barkat Singh leaped at the incensed sepoy and held him tight until help arrived and the soldier could be disarmed.

In retirement Barkat Singh was a familar and dignified figure at the VC and GC Association's London reunions.

APPRECIATIONS

John Sparrow

MAY I be allowed to add a footnote to your admirable obituary (January 25) of John Sparrow? Since 1949, generations of budding book collectors, undergraduate members of the Oxford University Society of Bibliophiles, at the end of each term enjoyed John Sparrow's hospitality and tutelage in his home. He was honorary president of the club till his death. His love of literature, whether the obvious or the obscure, which he would produce with impish glee, was infectious.

He insisted on having the books of his choice in worthy clothing and his library was a marvellous sight. Few will forget the pleasure with which he handled an immaculate Elizabethan or Jacobean book in contemporary limp vellum, or his delight over the rows of resplendent morocco volumes. When he retired as head of All Souls, the OUSB produced a small volume of essays: *The Warden's Meeting* (1978), a tribute from many former and current members of the society. John, a distinguished member of the Roxburghe Club, was one of the great bibliophiles of his age, and many booklovers will remember him with affection for his kindness and for what he taught them.

Bent Juel-Jensen

I WONDER if, as a former Clerk to the Skinners' Company, I might add a postscript about his connection with the company and Tonbridge School to your perceptive obituary of John Sparrow?

As Warden of All Souls he did Tonbridge the great honour of agreeing virtually every year to be the college's examiner of the school (an office deriving from the kinship of the founder, Sir Andrew Judd, and Archbishop Chichele). He became in this way a revered and adored figure, both to the Court of the Skinners' Company as governors, and to the common room at Tonbridge.

The pithy wit and bracing judgment of his reports as All Souls' examiner on the compulsory entries for the Upper VIth Chichele essay prize became proverbial. So, too, did his speeches in appreciation of "the deceptive cordiality of the company's welcome" at the dinner given by the company to housemasters on the eve of the governors' annual visitation of the school, and the last minute felicity of his Latin reply, drafted "the morning after the night before" over breakfast, to the head boy's *oratio congratulatoria* welcoming him and the governors at the start of the visitation. I shall always remember him for being invariably kind when he could so easily have been intimidating.

In recognition of how much his friendship meant to the company and Tonbridge, the company made him an honorary freeman in 1968.

Myles Glover

I KNEW John Sparrow at Oxford from time to time, when he was emeritus warden and an hon fellow of All Souls. His favourite tale was at his own expense. The prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, invited him to a Sunday lunch at Chequers; and he warmed to the compliment, rather expecting he might be asked to chair a select committee. He drove over buoyantly one sunny summer's day.

On arrival he was introduced almost immediately to another John Sparrow, who was on secondment to the cabinet office as head of the central policy review staff (which soon earned him a knighthood). He saw at a glance that one of the two sparrows was not meant to make that summer, not at Chequers. He relaxed, realising that two may be called but only one chosen; so he enjoyed a genuine "free lunch".

Dom Alberic Stacpoole

Raymond Guest

RAYMOND Guest, as you state (obituary, January 3) was only the second owner in Turf history to be successful in the Derby, Grand National, and Cheltenham Gold Cup. The first was of course Dorothy Paget with Straight Deal and Golden Millar, as against Guest's Larkspur and Sir Ivor for the Derby and L'Escargot for the other two. Guest had the distinction of winning his Derby at Epsom while Ms Paget had to settle for a wartime one run at Newmarket.

Raymond Guest is remembered for a famous bet he struck with William Hill. Before running in the National two-year old stakes at the Curragh, Guest had £500 each way on Sir Ivor to win the Derby at odds of 100 to 1. He duly collected £62,500 from "the old firm". American tax laws left him with only £16,000 or so for himself. The result was that he had no more wagers. Still he had the obvious satisfaction of beating the book, which is a very rare distinction indeed.

Finbarr Slattery

The concise crossword, the chess problem and the answers to Word-Watching are on page 13 of the new Life and Times section.

JAN 29 · ON THIS DAY 1924

St Petersburg 1703: Petrograd 1914: Leningrad 1924: St Petersburg 1991. With his name erased from the maps and proposals that his embalmed body be removed from the Kremlin and buried, Lenin's immortality is no longer secure.

FUNERAL OF LENIN

PROPOSED MONUMENTS

(From Our Correspondent)
RIGA, JAN 28

The funeral of Lenin began at 9 o'clock yesterday morning and lasted more than seven hours, although the Trade Union Hall, in which the body lay, is only five minutes' walk from the grave in the Red Square.

The body was placed outside the temporary mausoleum until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when it was taken inside and lowered into the grave. Then throughout the territory of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics all factory sirens were sounded for three minutes and all traffic was interrupted for five minutes. The German Ambassador, Count von Brockdorf Rantzau, representing the Diplomatic Corps, placed upon the coffin a wreath of white flowers with white ribbons.

At the opening on Saturday of the big Congress of the Union of Soviet Republics a resolution was passed that the body should be preserved within a glass-lidded coffin and be accessible to visitors as long as possible — for many years it was hoped — so that people might go there "for consolation and inspiration." Lenin's heart and brain have been placed in a special urn for preservation at the Lenin Institute.

The postponement of the funeral was due to the difficulty of digging the grave and erecting the temporary monument. Explosives had to be used because the ground was frozen so hard. Until the glazed coffin has been made and the permanent vault and mausoleum built next spring, Lenin lies in a red-draped oaken coffin within a wooden structure with four windows, which is lighted by electricity. All last night this temporary mausoleum was lit up by searchlights.

Petrograd has been renamed Leningrad. It has been resolved to erect monuments to Lenin in Moscow, Leningrad, Kharkoff, Minsk, Tiflis, and Tashkent. It was further resolved at the Congress on Saturday to publish and distribute millions of copies of selected works of Lenin in many languages, especially Oriental languages. The Postal Department is issuing special memorial stamps with Lenin's portrait on them.

SOVIET WAR ON RELIGION

According to the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia*, "a characteristic trial" was held recently at Zhitomir, in Volhynia Ukraine. Two Polish schoolmasters were charged with having taken part "with their pupils" in the religious funeral procession of a schoolmistress. The procession was headed by priests and their acolytes carrying a crucifix and banners. The Union of Cultural Workers requested that these teachers should be summoned for trial before a public tribunal. The prosecution was conducted by the Provincial Prosecutor and by "an expert on religion and the Church."

The verdict of the Tribunal was that whereas a Soviet school teacher's duty lay in the active execution of the Government decree on the separation of Church and State, the accused had taken part, together with their pupils, in a religious rite, thereby acting against the laws and principles of the Soviet Government. "The Tribunal, therefore, holds up the action of the accused to public shame, as having brought dishonour on the Teachers Union and having been directed against the children."

Early Muslims find the path to Mecca

SUCCESSIVE mosques excavated at a Swahili town in Kenya show increasing accuracy in their orientation towards Mecca. Over two centuries the alignment of the *qibla* was refined by over 30 degrees of arc (Norman Hammond writes).

Mecca lies almost due north of Shanga, on Pate Island on the Indian ocean coastline of northern Kenya. A series of eight mosques was found there by Dr Mark Horton of the British Institute in eastern Africa, dating from the eighth to tenth centuries. "I removed the floor of an abandoned mosque, went down to an earlier one, removed that floor and went down to an earlier mosque, and so on," he says in *National Geographic*. The building of about AD780 was oriented at 310 degrees, 50 degrees too far west, and that of AD850 was only one degree further north.

The next half century saw a 20-degree increase in accuracy, and by AD1000 the elaborate stone mosque was oriented at 342 degrees. This increasing precision, Dr Horton believes, reflects refinements by Muslim navigators sailing south down the Red Sea from Arabia.

With favourable winds, they could easily keep track of distance and direction, but when they hit the Gulf of Aden they had to cross the prevailing wind in course changes more difficult to calculate. The gradual accumulation of navigational expertise was then transferred to Muslim communities such as Shanga.

Source: *National Geographic* Vol 180 No 5.

Horticulture

Spring colour brings show to life

BY ALAN TOOGOOD, HORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

GARDEN plants are stirring in the south and west of Britain — certainly much of the spring colour at the Royal Horticultural Society's Flower Show, which opened in Westminster yesterday, has been provided by nurserymen from these milder parts.

Among the highlights is a gold medal display of hellebores from Blackthorn Nursery, of Alresford, Hampshire. These winter and spring flowering perennials, many bred on the nursery, are clustered around pink-flowered *Daphne bholua* and white sarcococcas, both emitting a powerful fragrance.

Among the new Blackthorn Nursery hellebore introductions are *Helleborus sorquatus* hybrids, dwarf yet vigorous plants producing red, purple and pink flowers, and *Helleborus* "Party Dress" with semi-double pink and mauve flowers, but not available until next year. The Blackthorn Primrose Strain of *Helleborus orientalis* is also featured, unusual for its light yellow flowers.

Winter foliage colour and interest from shrubs and other plants is featured by Burncoose and South Down Nurseries, of Redruth, Cornwall, but the earliest camellias are just coming into flower, including their own *Camellia x williamsii* "Burncoose", a compact plant with single pale pink flowers. There is a demand for purple-leaved evergreen shrubs, of which there are few, so Burncoose are featuring several: *Corokia* "Coppershine", willowy leaved *Dodonea viscosa* "Purpurea", *Myrtus* "Pixie" and "Kathryn" (myrtles) and *Pittosporum tenuifolium* "Tom Thumb". There is also a good range of other coloured-leaved pittosporums, including pink-flushed "Deborah" and yellow "Golden King". This exhibit has been awarded a gold medal.

Miniature winter and early spring bulbs, creating panches of colour like Persian carpets, are being shown by several exhibitors. The foliage interest of snowdrops and miniature hardy cyclamen, which persists long after the flowers have faded, is being emphasised by Broadleigh Gardens, of Bishop's Hull, Somerset. The snowdrops range from *Galanthus elwesii* with broad grey leaves, to pleated-leaved *G. plicatus*. *Cyclamen coum* ranges from pewter-leaved and silver-zoned forms, to plain green forms with red flowers.

An exhibit of bulbous Juno irises from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey, has been awarded a gold medal.

Witch hazels are among the main shrubs providing winter flower colour. A collection from Starborough Nursery, of Edenbridge, Kent, shows the range of flower colour from yellow to brick red.

The show, in the New Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, is open today from 10am to 5pm.

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Doctors' pay to be tied to workload

Continued from page 1

introduced in 1990. In the longer term, the move, which will be opposed strongly by the medical profession, is expected to overturn the merit award system under which a minority of consultants can earn up to £40,000 on top of their NHS salaries.

Whitehall sources emphasised yesterday that the new system would not form part of the pay settlement for doctors this year, to be announced by the prime minister early next month, but would be drawn up with the medical profession for next year's pay round. In the next few weeks officials are planning to float various options with leaders of the British Medical Association and the medical royal colleges. Initially, money is likely be matched to measurable outcomes such as workload, as officials admit it would be hard to judge a surgeon's "skill at wielding a knife".

Rewards, determined by a committee of managers and doctors, could be given for personal or group performance. Bonus payments could be shared, for example, between doctors in a specialty that exceeded targets. The move fits in neatly with John Major's aspirations to improve standards in public services. The prime minister made clear when he relaunched the citizen's charter on Monday that he wants to create incentives to raise quality by extending performance-related pay throughout the public sector.

Health department officials are already working on proposals to introduce bonus payments for Britain's 500,000 nurses, and senior managers have been paid for performance for the past five years. Until now, however, ministers have been reluctant to tackle the complicated and anomolous pay system for doctors.

Although the doctors' and dentists' pay review body recommends annual pay increases for doctors, merit money is mainly decided "in house" by other doctors.

About 6,000 hospital consultants receive distinction awards that fall into four categories, ranging from 15 per cent to 70 per cent on top of their salary. The top award of £44,070 (A plus) is awarded to 222 doctors, raising their maximum NHS salary to over £90,000. Critics of the scheme argue that it is run by an old-boy network.

Heading for summer: models in Paris displaying a Giancarlo Ferre flower-printed dress with matching off-the-shoulder jacket and wide hat and a Nina Ricci pleated evening dress in bayadere silk with a broad, ribbon-embroidered waist and puffed sleeves. Signor Ferre's Dior couture collection was his best yet, luxurious in feel, but succeeding in looking relaxed and modern (Liz Smith writes). Simplicity always looks sumptuous in his hands. There were still too many overscaled bustles and trains, and two daft bolero jackets, but the finale of slinky white evening dresses, embroidered in gold to look like columns, with a ruff of acanthus leaves, was a triumph. The Emanuel Ungaro collection was his usual heady cocktail of exuberant colour and print, crammed into one shapely outfit of curvy jacket and belled skirt, topped with a perky cocktail hat of tulle and flowers. Only at an Ungaro show do carnival-coloured polka dots and a ripple-line print appear tame.

Clinton embraces spirit of the Alamo

Continued from page 1

that he no longer has a problem with name recognition; the big drawback is that he has become linked inextricably with charges of womanising. The possibility of new evidence surfacing has made him a high-risk proposition to Democratic voters.

For the past week his staff has worked on little else but damage control, and already there are reports that big-name Democrats who had announced that they would not run are quietly preparing to reverse their positions should Mr Clinton drop out.

His strategy of acknowledging past waywardness but refusing to discuss specifics won qualified endorsements from key newspapers. *The Washington Post* called Ms Flowers a "pretty cheesy case", and declared that in the absence of more solid evidence "let's get on with the campaign".

There seemed little wavering among grassroots supporters in Texas, whose anger was directed mainly at the media. Garry Mauro, the land commissioner chairing his Texas campaign, said that not one of the 100 Democratic officials scheduled to endorse Mr Clinton yesterday had changed their mind.

Until recently some Democrats were worried that Mr Clinton would win the Democratic nomination so easily that he would be insufficiently tested before confronting President Bush. Those fears, at least, have been laid to rest.

Blonde ambition, page 7
Leading article, page 11

Palestinians boycott talks

Continued from page 1

agreed for the Madrid conference last year, left empty seats at the conference table and led the Jordanian foreign minister to predict that the multilateral talks would get nowhere.

Neither Mr Baker, who opened the talks with Andrei Kozyrev, his Russian counterpart, nor Mr Levy referred to the absence of the Palestinians in their speeches. The Israeli foreign minister concentrated on the area's common interest in peace and said that Israel would place its expertise in energy, agriculture and other areas at the disposal of its Arab neighbours.

The Palestinians did not conceal their anger at what had happened. Hanan Ashrawi, their spokeswoman, rejected an American proposal that the Palestinians should be allowed to extend their delegation at further talks, but not in Moscow. The Palestinians want representatives of the diaspora to take part in the multilateral talks, which will cover economic and environmental issues as well as disarmament and water resources.

A text of the speech that the Palestinian delegation had intended to deliver yesterday was circulated. It said: "We aim to exercise our right to freedom, self-determination and statehood." Mr Levy attacked this view directly, saying: "Anyone who thinks that these talks are designed to lead to a Palestinian state ... is deluding himself".

The dispute over the composition of the Palestinian team was the second blow to the Russian hosts' hopes of running a flawless international conference. On Monday President Yeltsin of Russia disppeared before the opening of the conference in Moscow and put off all engagements. The Russian delegation cancelled its planned press conference after the failure of the Palestinians to appear and offered no comment on what had happened.

While doing their best to save the Moscow round of talks, the American side was reported to be unhappy with overall preparations for the conference. If the meeting had been properly prepared, it was whispered, the dispute over Palestinian representation would not have occurred.

Some blamed the Russians for being too indulgent towards their former Middle East allies; others blamed their own side for concentrating too heavily on last week's international aid conference in Washington, at the expense of the Moscow talks.

Leading article, page 11

Political sketch

Never taking no for an answer

Neil Kinnock: "Will you put up VAT? Yes or no?"

John Major: "No".

Neil Kinnock: "Why can't you give a straight answer?"

I paraphrase, but not much. Yesterday Mr Kinnock asked the PM for "a categorical assurance that he will not impose any increase in VAT". Mr Major had "no plans". This did not satisfy the Labour leader: "Why can't the prime minister give a straight answer to a straight question?" That was what Mrs Thatcher always used to say, he complained. A more categorical statement was required.

Mr Major gave it. Government spending plans, he said, meant there was "no need" to put up VAT. "There will be no VAT increase," he said.

"It's time the prime minister came clean," said a flustered leader of the Opposition. He was clearly angry, but with whom? With the advisers who had proposed this as his choice of subject for the afternoon? Poor Mr Kinnock was now stuck with a duff script and a set of useless supplementary questions. Your sketchwriter, who sits directly above him, could see them, neatly typed out, with little underlinings. Pity to waste them, really.

So he read them anyway. "In view of the record of Conservative governments in always putting up VAT ... how can he pretend? ... Does not a Tory government make a VAT rise a certainty?"

By now, Tory giggles were getting under Mr Kinnock's feet. You could see his problem. He had intended to accuse the Tories of evasion but, having received the straightest of answers, was now cornered into calling them liars. Fair enough — Tories have been known to lie. But if their answers are lies, why ask the questions?

The prime minister squared up to Mr Kinnock's allegation: it was a "fib," he said. Cries of shock rose from the Opposition benches. They were gobsmacked. Fibs join porkies and lies in the increasingly playpen politics of the Commons Chamber. Perhaps we should rename this session "prime minister's porkies," or "Labour fibs"?

"Mind now, no slanging" came a sarcastic Labour shout as Paddy Ashdown rose to join the playground game. In it, Liberal Democrats and their leader play the role of a little boy whose type we all remember. There was one in every class. He was the goodie-goodie who would complain to the teacher about the other boys' behaviour, then, when Teacher wasn't looking, kick shins under desks or pull out his tongue.

"Teacher," to the Liberal Democrats, is really the Nation — listeners to the *Today* programme on BBC Radio 4. Confiding in the Nation, Mr Ashdown regularly sneaks on the rest of the MPs, accusing them of conducting a "slanging match" in their Westminster nursery, whenever the Nation's back is turned.

This infuriates the other boys and girls. They know what the Liberal Democrat gang get up to in the undergrowth which surrounds their Commons Kindergarten. They know about the constituencies. But somehow the *parliamentary Liberals are always once* removed from this. They stay clean, and return, again and again, to express their horror at low standards of political life.

To Mr Major yesterday, Mr Ashdown mentioned the optimistic economic predictions the PM used to make. Nothing personal, mind: just a reminder, more in sorrow than anger. Major stuck out his tongue: "gloom-monger!"

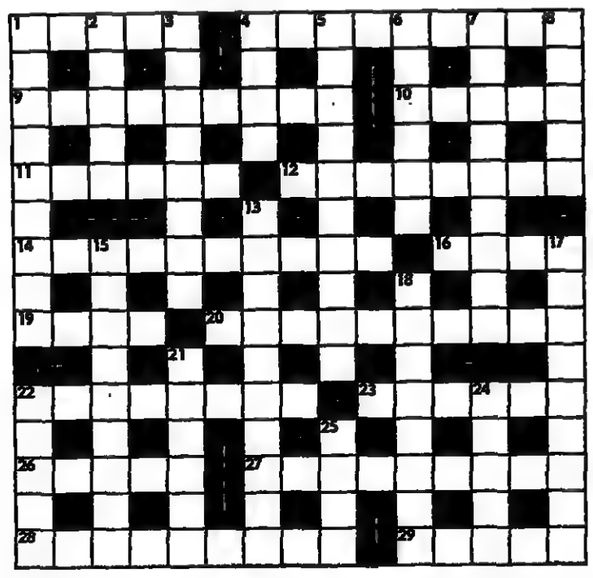
Minutes earlier, Ashdown's young lieutenant, Simon Hughes (Lib Dem, Southwark and Bermondsey) had put in a plea to education secretary Kenneth Clarke on behalf of parents anxious to get their children into city technology colleges. If refused a place, he complained, how could they appeal?

Odd, that. Speaking earlier to the Nation, when the Tories first thought of CTCs, I seem to recall that Mr Hughes was against them. Here is his leader, Mr Ashdown, on CTCs: "A gimcrack idea ... a mere gimmick ... an ideological bandwagon ... the policy has failed ... impractical ... cooked up on the back of a fag packet ... damaging, divisive and dangerous ... it deserves to die".

Ah, but that was July 11, 1988. That was the past. The past is the undergrowth, the present is the playground, and Teacher is watching.

MATTHEW PARRIS

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,827



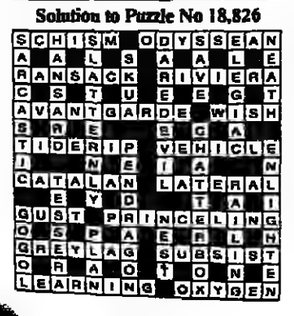
ACROSS

1 Redhead introducing companion, an aggressive chap (5).
4 Swimmers leave hurriedly, pursued by sailors (9).
9 Completely opposed to the concealment of matricide (9).
10 Without doubt, free from guilt (5).
11 Expose a foreign disguise (6).
12 Lacking confidence in guarantee (8).
14 20 ponies to satisfy with soup and fish (6,4).
16 Seaside musical entertainment? (4).
19 Widespread requirement for the last four in contention (4).
20 Six hours on March 25, for example? (7,3).
22 Dance music for two instruments (8).
23 Vessel pounded by cannon (6).
26 *Animal sanctuary's opening in* low-key environment (5).
27 Open declaration of preference (9).
28 Housemen suffering tiredness (9).
29 Registration of competitors (5).

DOWN

1 "Why, this is very ..... madness" (*T. Night*) (9).
2 Damage after cold spell (5).
3 Floating voters, supported by extreme political leaders, go too far (8).
4 In a way, soldiers are kind (4).
5 Inflammatory letters in nice new book (10).
6 Trick rider (6).
7 With varied fortune, journalist goes after payment on the side (9).
8 Wait to start the game (5).
13 Arrogance in religious celebration (10).
15 Corrupt Oriental — so unfair! (9).
17 Prompt currency examination in friendly office (9).
18 Some procedures *our cemeteries* find expedient (8).
21 Became widely known — it often occurs in middle age (6).
22 Famous Greek long-distance racer (5).
24 Cheat the rope (5).
25 Pointless pun found in very long novel perhaps (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,826



The Concise crossword is on Life and Times, 13

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?

By Philip Howard

FOINERY
a. Durham lace-making
b. Irish wedding garments
c. Swordplay at fencing

MERKIN
a. False pubic hair
b. The twilight
c. Relations by marriage

JEZIAH
a. An Apocryphal prophet
b. A tax on non-Muslims
c. The Lydian letter J

BISMER
a. Recrossing the sea again
b. A step-mother
c. Shame or disgrace

Answers in Life & Times 13

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the *appropriate code*

London & SE

C London (within N & S Crcs)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Most of Britain will be cloudy today, but some breaks in that cloud will allow freezing fog patches to develop tonight and to persist tomorrow. Shetland will be bright at times. Areas most at risk of fog are from the West Midlands into northern England, the Forth and Clyde valleys, and parts of Northern Ireland. England and Wales will have widespread frost with icy patches on roads, but it will be warmer in the far north. Outlook: frost and freezing fog.

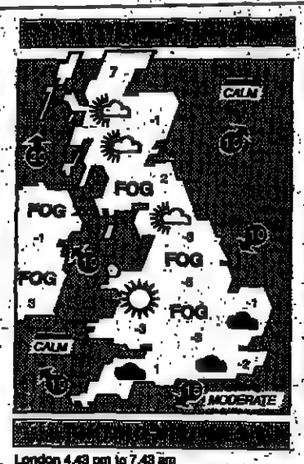
MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; h=hail; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	s	Malaga	7	45	r
Alex'dria	15	59	s	Malta	12	54	r
Algiers	12	54	c	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Amst'dm	0	32	fg	Mexico C*	15	59	f
Athens	10	50	f	Miami*	24	75	c
Bahrain	11	52	r	Milan	3	37	fg
Bangkok	30	86	f	Montreal*	-12	10	c
Barbados*	28	82	c	Moscow	0	32	c
Barcelna	12	54	s	Munich	-2	28	c
Beirut	14	57	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Bermuda*	19	66	c	Naples	10	50	s
Biarritz	6	43	s	N Delhi	21	70	c
Borde'x	4	39	s	N York*	1	34	c
Brussels	-1	30	c	Nice	14	57	s
Budapest	-1	30	f	Oslo	0	32	fg
B Aires*	29	84	c	Paris	3	37	f
Cairo	19	66	s	Perth	33	91	s
Cape Tn	26	79	s	Prague	1	34	f
Chicago*	1	34	c	Reykjavik	3	37	r
Cologne	2	36	f	Rhodes	14	57	f
C'phagn	4	39	c	Rio de J	36	97	s
Corfu	12	54	s	Rome	11	52	s
Dublin	5	41	c	Salzburg	-2	28	c
Faro	13	55	s	S Frisco*	8	46	f
Florence	9	48	s	Santiago*	27	81	s
Frankfurt	1	34	c	S Paulo*	31	88	f
Funchal	16	61	c	Sing'por	29	84	f
Geneva	0	32	c	Sr'kholm	5	41	f
Gibraltar	13	55	c	Strasb'rg	3	37	s
Helsinki	7	45	c	Sydney	23	73	s
Hong K	20	68	s	Tangier	15	59	s
Innsbruck	-4	25	c	Tel Aviv	12	54	s
Istanbul	3	37	r	Tenerife	18	64	f
Jo'burg*	31	88	s	Tokyo	12	54	s
Karachi	20	68	c	Toronto*	-1	30	f
L Palmas	18	64	f	Tunis	14	57	s
Lisbon	8	46	s	Valencia	10	50	f
Locarno	4	39	s	Vanc'ver*	8	46	r
London	7	45	f	Venice	5	41	s
L Angeles*	14	57	s	Vienna	-1	30	s
Luxembg	0	32	c	Warsaw	0	32	c
Luxor	23	73	s	Wash'ton*	2	36	c
Madrid	5	41	f	Wel'nton	21	70	c
Majorca	14	57	f	Zurich	-2	28	c

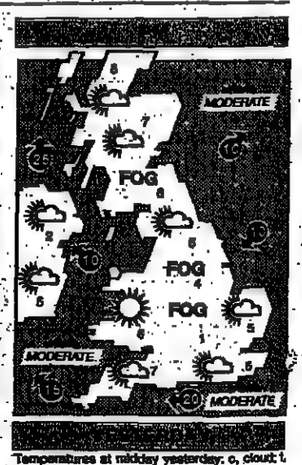
* denotes figures are latest available

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.7	-	9	48	sunny
Anglesey	5.7	-	7	45	sunny
Ardmore	6.1	-	5	41	sunny
Belfast	-	-	0	32	fog
Birmingham	6.1	-	5	41	sunny
Bognor Regis	4.8	-	6	43	bright
Bournemouth	2.7	-	4	39	bright
Bristol	-	-	3	37	dull
Buxton	5.7	-	4	39	sunny
Cardiff	-	-	1	34	fog
Colwyn Bay	6.7	-	8	46	sunny
Cromer	3.3	0.01	6	43	bright
Douglas	1.0	-	5	41	cloudy
Edinburgh	-	-	5	41	sunny
Eskdalemuir	4.3	-	3	37	fog
Exmouth	-	-	3	37	cloudy
Falmouth	3.2	-	7	45	sunny
Guernsey	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Jersey	1.6	-	8	46	cloudy
Kinloss	6.6	-	8	46	sunny
Leeds	6.4	-	7	45	sunny
Lerwick	-	-	8	46	drizzle
London	4.9	-	7	45	sunny
Lowestoft	5.0	0.01	6	43	sunny
Manchester	1.5	-	0	32	fog
Minehead	-	-	3	37	dull
Morecambe	2.0	-	2	36	cloudy
Newcastle	6.7	-	5	41	sunny
Nottingham	6.9	-	6	43	sunny
Penzance	6.4	-	8	46	sunny
Plymouth	3.7	-	5	41	sunny
Poole	0.6	-	6	43	cloudy
Prestwick	6.8	-	5	41	sunny
Sandown	5.6	-	5	41	sunny
Scarborough	7.2	-	5	41	sunny
Scilly Isles	4.5	-	7	45	bright
Shanklin	3.8	-	5	41	sunny
Southsea	5.1	-	6	43	sunny
St. Ives	5.9	-	7	45	sunny
Stornoway	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Swanage	2.9	-	5	41	bright
Tenby	6.4	-	5	41	sunny
Tiree	0.1	-	7	45	cloudy
Torquay	-	-	6	43	cloudy
Wick	6.5	-	7	45	sunny

Monday's figures are latest available



London 4.43 pm to 7.43 am
Bristol 4.53 pm to 7.53 am
Edinburgh 4.38 pm to 8.13 am
Manchester 4.44 pm to 7.59 am
Penzance 5.10 pm to 8.00 am



Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F	
Belfast	s	3	37	c	Guernsey	s	3	37	c
B'mghm	s	3	27	fg	Inverness	s	8	46	f
Blackpool	s	2	36	s	Jersey	s	3	37	c
Bristol	c	0	32	c	London	r	7	45	f
Cardiff	f	1	34	fg	M'nchester	c	0	32	fg
Dublin	c	3	37	c	Newcastle	s	3	37	s
Edinburgh	s	3	37	c	N'ridaway	s	4	39	f
Glasgow	s	2	36	fg					

Sun rises: 7.45 am — Sun sets: 4.43 pm
Moon rises: 4.10 am — Moon sets: 11.45 am
New moon February 3.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 3C (37F); min 6pm to 6am, −2C (28F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 1C (34F); min 6pm to 6am, −6C (21F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.01	5.9	9.42	5.9	Liverpool	6.43	7.8	7.28	7.2
Aberdeen	9.17	3.3	9.59	3.3	Lowestoft	4.58	2.1	5.46	2.0
Avonmouth	1.56	9.7	2.37	9.7	Margate	7.19	3.9	8.04	3.9
Belfast	6.53	2.9	7.20	3.0	Milford Haven	1.28	5.2	2.09	5.1
Cardiff	1.43	9.2	2.22	9.1	Newquay	12.28	5.3	1.09	5.2
Devonport	12.34	4.4	1.05	4.3	Oban	1.39	2.9	3.04	2.8
Dover	6.28	5.3	7.17	5.1	Penzance			12.21	4.3
Falmouth	12.04	4.2	12.35	4.1	Portland	1.15	1.4	1.59	1.3
Glasgow	6.07	4.0	6.18	4.0	Portsmouth	6.35	4.0	7.28	3.9
Harwich	7.02	3.2	7.45	3.1	Shoreham	6.27	4.5	7.22	4.7
Holyhead	6.12	4.4	6.59	4.3	Southampton	6.36	3.7	7.31	3.8
Hull	1.21	6.0	2.04	5.8	Swansea	1.19	7.2	1.57	7.1
Ilfracombe	1.04	8.8	1.47	8.7	Tees	11.34	4.2		
King's Lynn	1.34	4.9	2.19	4.7	W'ton-on-Nze	7.00	3.4	7.48	3.3
Leith	10.16	4.3	11.01	4.4					

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Information supplied by Met Office

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.455	2.295
Austria Sch	21.20	19.70
Belgium Fr	61.90	57.90
Canada $	2.21	2.05
Denmark Kr	11.65	14.91
Finland Mkk	8.33	7.73
France Fr	10.23	9.53
Germany Dm	3.00	2.80
Greece Dr	352.00	327.00
Hong Kong $	14.45	13.45
Ireland Pt	1.125	1.055
Italy Lira	2265.00	2115.00
Japan Yen	242.25	223.25
Netherlands Gld	3.375	3.155
Norway Kr	11.84	11.04
Portugal Esc	258.00	240.00
South Africa Rd	5.80	4.90
Spain Pta	187.50	174.50
Sweden Kr	11.02	10.22
Switzerland Fr	2.685	2.485
Turkey Lira	10000.0	9200.0
USA $	1.88	1.735
Yugoslavia Dnr	DNB	DNB

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Newquay, Cornwall, 9C (48F). Lowest day max: Ross-on-Wye, Hereford and Worcester, −1C (30F). Highest rain: Herne Bay, Kent, 0.02 in. Highest sunshine: Scarborough, Yorkshire, and Skegness, Lincolnshire, 7.2 hr

WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

TODAY IN BUSINESS

HOT SEAT

Sir Graham Day, chairman, has found the proverbial seat at British Aerospace getting hotter and hotter. Last week's Airbus crash was almost the last straw

Page 19

BULL BY HORNS

IBM will take 5 or 10 per cent of Groupe Bull, large enough not to threaten its independence, Edith Cresson says

Page 16

STARDUST

Richard Atkinson, of Eurocamp, selected Euro Disney operator, says early booking promotions have been "satisfactory"

Tempus, page 18

UNMARKED

The European Community is about to create a single market for goods and services but not for trade marks

Page 19

CHILLY

David Green, of Colefax and Fowler, whose home furnishings have graced Buckingham Palace, is feeling the recession

Page 18

Falling exports add to the gloom

CBI survey sees dramatic fall in confidence

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

HOPES of an early economic recovery received another blow after the Confederation of British Industry's industrial trends survey, widely seen as the most reliable barometer of manufacturing activity, predicted further output falls and job losses.

The survey, published yesterday, showed that last October's upturn in business optimism was a damp squib, and that confidence has fallen back to last July's levels. In its accompanying economic assessment, the CBI gave warning that the flood of job losses from manufacturing, which reached 300,000 last year, would continue unabated. The employers's organisation expects 73,000 manufacturing workers to lose their jobs in the first quarter of the year, after an estimated 65,000 job losses in the final quarter of 1991.

The CBI surveyed 1,241 companies that together are responsible for half of UK manufacturing employment and exports. The organisation found that 47 per cent of firms expected to cut jobs during the next four months. Only 6 per cent expected to increase staff.

Because the picture is so gloomy, the CBI now expects to revise downwards its prediction that the economy will grow by 1.7 per cent this year. Andrew Sentance, the CBI's economics director, said the survey results suggested that output in the next four months would be fairly flat, and growth in the latter part of the year would be weaker than expected.

Sir Brian Corby, the president, acknowledged that the CBI had been overoptimistic in seeking positive signs from earlier surveys. "These figures are not encouraging. We clearly expected things to be looking rather better now than they are," he said.

Sir Brian was particularly concerned that companies were cutting back their investment in new machinery and equipment. He called for measures in the Budget on March 10 to encourage firms to increase investment.

Gordon Brown, shadow industry minister, said the results called into question government claims that a recovery had begun, and left the Chancellor's credibility "in tatters." David Bellotti, Liberal Democrat spokesman, said: "How much more evidence do the government need that recovery is definitely not round the corner?"

The most striking feature of the results is the abrupt downturn in business confidence. Only 10 per cent of firms said they were more optimistic about prospects in the next four months, with 34 per cent less optimistic. The minus-24 per cent balance compares with plus-2 per cent last October. In the four months to January, 45 per cent of firms saw a fall in orders, compared with 10 per cent recording a rise.

There was also an abrupt worsening of export prospects: 49 per cent of firms reported export orders below normal; 8 per cent said they were better. The negative balance, of 41 per cent, was markedly worse than October's 31 per cent.

The survey found that 71 per cent of firms were working below capacity, 2 per cent more than in October.

Thousands of jobs to go at NatPower

By Our Industrial Correspondent

NATIONAL Power, Britain's biggest electricity generator, has begun talks with unions and workers at its 35 power stations aimed at cutting staff numbers in line with "best practice worldwide." The jobs of several thousand — possibly a third of the company's 9,000 power station operating staff — are expected to be shed. National Power said it was too early to provide figures.

The talks are part of a renewed drive against manning costs at National Power, which was privatised, along with its smaller rival, PowerGen, less than a year ago. By September, National Power will have shed more than 6,000 of the 17,000 staff it inherited from the former Central Electricity Generating Board. Two thousand white-collar staff, half of the total, are expected to go. Generating plant job losses will be in addition to these cuts.

National Power was privatised with an overlarge white-collar workforce partly because Britain's nuclear stations were pulled from the sale. "We inherited many more staff than the company could justify," a spokesman said. "There will be a continued reduction so that by 1994 the station managers will be able to achieve world best practice."

National Power has already closed five small coal-burning power stations, and shut a number of generating sets at some larger stations in an effort to cut costs and enhance efficiency. Further power station closures are expected as older plants are replaced.

Noble friends: Lords Hanson and White in confident mood at yesterday's annual meeting in London

Hanson lays ICI bid ghost

By Colin Campbell

LORD Hanson, in typical showman's style and in front of 1,400 frequently applauding shareholders, effectively killed off speculation over a bid for ICI at yesterday's Hanson annual meeting.

In a performance that ranged from the candid to the clandestine, Lord Hanson sought to bury the question of why the group had invested, and lost, £12 million in bloodstock, admitted he had made mistakes, but firmly declined to name his successor.

"We have never said we would bid for ICI — that was all media speculation and market rumour — and we have no plans to do so now," he declared. Hanson, second largest shareholder with a 2.8 per cent stake, would watch ICI's progress with "interest — and affection", he added, though his deliberate use of "now" remains open to interpretation.

As the noble lords Hanson and White skipped on to the Barbican stage, Lord White tripped and all but fell on his face. Within minutes, he was asked to tell of Hanson's American operations and the American economy. Hanson, he was sure, would benefit from America's $150 billion roads programme. Lord Hanson said it was "nice to hear it from the horse's mouth . . . of which I shall say more later".

Not long afterwards, Lord Hanson turned back to horses, and in one of several tilts at the media said suggestions that Hanson's bloodstock investment had all been a perk for White were "bordering on libel".

"We sponsor the Derby. Bloodstock was a good opportunity to get our money back. Others were investing in bloodstock. We lost £12 million. It was not disclosed because the amount relative to the group was not material. With hindsight, I regret the non-disclosure," Lord Hanson said.

Hanson's £100,000 contribution to the Tory party was justified because it was the party that had a real interest in the creation of wealth, he said.

There was no particular reason why there were not more women on the board. Lord Hanson thought Mrs Thatcher was very fully occupied with her autobiography, besides which Hanson group had a galaxy of management talent.

He was temporarily heckled by representatives of the Navajo tribe of Red Indians concerned about coal mining operations, by Peabody, on their land in Arizona. "Get the stewards," Lord Hanson urged. Meanwhile, outside the Barbican, the anti-tobacco lobby sported white carnations in protest against Imperial Tobacco.

The ICI-Hanson debate may be dead — for now — but the "who is going to succeed noble Lords Hanson and White guessing game" goes on.

"We have the succession: we just don't plan to name it at this time," the lively 70-year-old declared, though admitting that the time will come "as some of us fade away".

And as for Lord White not being a director of Hanson plc, his fellow Lord retorted that Lord White had gone "over there" in 1974 to build up the American company and "he had got on with it".

"The failure of so many British business ventures over there was, we believed, the result of their management being directed from Britain — 3,500 miles away. We'd be wrong to change a strategy that has worked so well", Lord Hanson said.

Hanson shares lost 5p at 209½p.

☐ Lord White, who was accused of assaulting his girlfriend, 29-year-old Victoria Tucker, during a Christmas break in Aspen, Colorado, said before the meeting: "The case has been dismissed. I feel it is American justice at its best."

Comment, page 19

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7965 (+0.0175)

German mark
2.8681 (−0.0032)

Exchange index
90.8 (+0.3)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
1973.8 (+7.4)

FT-SE 100
2552.0 (+12.1)

New York Dow Jones
3249.33 (+8.72)*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
21390.52 (+383.41)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10½%
3-month interbank 10 19/32-10½%
3-month eligible bills: 9 29/32-9 15/16%
US: Prime Rate 6½%
Federal Funds 3 15/16%*
3-month Treasury Bills 3.80-3.78%*
30-year bonds 103 27/32-103⅞*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7945	£: $1.7960*
£: DM2.8685	$: DM1.5961*
£: SwFr2.5509	$: SwFr1.4202*
£: FFr9.7711	$: FFr5.4425*
£: Yen225.39	$: Yen125.60*
£: Index90.8	$: Index62.6
ECU £0.711386	SDR £0.783636
£: ECU1.405706	£: SDR1.276102

London forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $356.30 pm-$356.30
close $356.00-356.50 (£198.10-198.60)
New York:
Comex $355.85-356.35*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb) ... $18.45 bbl ($18.70)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 135.7 December (1987=100)

* Denotes midday trading price

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Carlton bids for Pickwick Group

By Martin Waller

CARLTON Communications, the television services concern chaired by Michael Green, has swooped for Pickwick Group, the video and music distributor, with a bid worth £69 million in new shares, after Pickwick's unexpected second-half profits reverse last year.

Carlton is offering 100 new shares for every 232 Pickwick shares, valuing each at 245p at yesterday's price. There is an underwritten cash alternative worth 220p. The Pickwick share price shot ahead 67p to 240p.

The agreed bid, which has the blessing of investors speaking for 25 per cent of Pickwick's share capital, including Pearson, with 20 per cent, offers opportunities of vertical integration for Technicolor, Carlton's video reproduction business.

Pickwick has seen its share price decline from a high of 260p in August 1990. The group told shareholders at the halfway stage last year, when profits dropped from £1.5 million to £82,000, that second-half performance would be broadly in line with that of the previous year, when the group made £5.4 million.

Green: £69m shares offer

Two big company accounts criticised

By Our Financial Staff

AFTER a review of the top hundred companies, the Financial Reporting Review Panel, which enforces accounting standards, has ruled that the 1990 profit and loss accounts of Williams Holdings, the conglomerate, and Ultramar, the oil group, did not comply with the Companies Act 1985.

These are the first cases in which the panel, set up a year ago, has publicly named companies in breach of the standards. Compliance with the standards became mandatory under the 1989 Companies Act.

The panel decided to not to use its power to force the accounts to be rewritten after both Williams and Ultramar, which has since been taken over by Lasmo, agreed to obey the rules in future.

Williams was criticised for not including exceptional profits and losses in pre-tax profits, but only as £3.5 million net of tax, and not including them in calculating earnings per share.

Williams, which disagreed with the standard, had already come into line with its 1991 interim figures, issued in August, before it heard from the panel. It has also agreed to change the detail of disclosure of purchases and sales of companies. Its shares still fell 11p to 323p due to general unease over acquisition accounting by conglomerates. Racal criticised Williams accounts as part of its recent successful defence against a bid. Ultramar was criticised for counting advance corporation tax as part of the cost of its dividend, rather than as a tax charge. This had led to its accounts being qualified by Ernst & Young, its auditor.

Comment, page 19

Ageing vessels sink their insurers

By Jonathan Prynn

AN AGEING world shipping fleet and the disappearance of the old family-owned shipping companies were yesterday put forward as the reasons for yet another disastrous year for the London marine insurance market.

Figures released yesterday by the Institute of London Underwriters (ILU), which represents the company marine and aviation market in London, show that the amount of tonnage lost year was the highest since the worst ever years of 1979 and 1980, the peak of the Iran-Iraq war. In total, 182 ships of 500 tons gross or more were lost, a 30 per cent increase on 1990. In tonnage terms, the increase was 40 per cent to more than 1.7 million tons gross.

Roger Nixon, a member of the committee of the ILU, said that as ships got older they became more vulnerable to bad weather and machinery failure. A recent survery showed that of the 220 cruising vessels currently in operations more than 60 were more than 30 years old. The *Oceanos*, the cruiser lost off the South African coast last August, was 39 years old when it sank.

The worldwide recession in shipping over the past decade has also caused shipowners to cut back on the maintenance of vessels, Mr Nixon said. "There has been a sea change in the ownership of vessels," from the old family companies to new financial owners that employ managers "on the basis of who can manage the ships the most cheaply," he added. The increasing use of flags of convenience is also a factor. Last year, Panama and Cyprus alone accounted for about a quarter of the total tonnage lost. Only three United Kingdom-registered vessels were lost.

The casualties mean that the company marine market almost certainly suffered a loss last year, after the losses of 1988, 1989 and 1990. Preliminary statistics show that claims for ILU members' hull, cargo and aviation business exceeded premiums by £1.86 billion last year. The results are also bad news for Lloyd's, which had been hoping for a return to profits in 1991 after the heavy losses of 1988 to 1990. The ILU and Lloyd's each roughly account for about half of all the marine and aviation business placed in London.

Declan McMahon, the outgoing ILU chairman, said there were grounds for cautious optimism in the results because underwriters had "regained a sense of realism and become more hard-headed in their attitudes." However, Peter Evans, the newly elected chairman, pointed out that the improved premium rates and policy conditions seen by the year end were still "totally inadequate," and he said that it would be "some years before we see ourselves really out of the woods."

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Deal to help French computer firm out of financial problems

IBM picked to partner Groupe Bull

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

THE French government has chosen IBM as a strategic partner for Groupe Bull, the French loss-making, state-controlled computer maker, in an effort to help Bull surmount its current financial difficulties.

Edith Cresson, the French prime minister, announced yesterday that IBM will take a minority equity stake in Bull, which, she said, is not large enough to jeopardise Bull's independence, but is sufficiently large to show IBM's commitment. IBM and Bull will engage in a substantial co-operation in technical areas, especially on the development of Bull's Unix computers. IBM's main input will be in the field of reduced instruction set computing (Risc), a recent development designed to enhance computing power.

IBM won in its bid against competition from Hewlett-Packard, the computer and printer maker. The announcement of the Bull-IBM venture forms part of a series of Franco-American agreements, which also includes a joint research venture between IBM and SGS-Thomson, the Franco-Italian chip maker. Under this, IBM has agreed to purchase electronic components for its European and American factories.

Mme Cresson also announced that there will be a third agreement between SGS-Thomson and Hewlett-Packard, details of which are yet to be announced officially.

In addition, there will be a series of deals involving Apple Computers, including a participation by Bull in Apple's Consumer Design Centre in Austin, Texas, and a venture between Apple, Thomson Consumer Electronics and France Telecom to study the development of multi-media terminals.

These ventures form part of a wider reshuffle of the French electronics industry, which suffered severe losses in 1990 and 1991. The most significant development so far came at the end of last year, when France decided to form a giant state-owned electronics and nuclear holding, Thomson-CEA Industrie, grouping the various interests of Thomson SA and CEA, the French nuclear energy commission. Preparation for Thomson-CEA Industrie are currently underway.

Bull will not be part of this venture and as a result the government has chosen a separate strategy involving the joint deal with IBM. Originally, it was thought that NEC, the Japanese electronics group, would emerge as the preferred partner. But this has met with opposition by a French government concerned about growing influence of Japanese companies in France.

Co-operation: Edith Cresson hopes IBM and Bull will develop a new computer

Interest cut lifts Electron

A sharp cut in interest costs was largely responsible for a 170 per cent surge in pre-tax profits at Electron House to £595,000 in the half year to end-November. Sales of this distributor of computer products and electronic components were virtually unchanged at £60.1 million (£60.5 million), but interest, benefiting from the previous year's £5.1 million rights issue, fell 27.8 per cent to £1.17 million.

Robert Leigh, the chairman, said pressure on gross margins was "substantially offset" by a reduction in overheads. The second half's sales would be affected by the government's recently imposed moratorium on local authority spending in Northern Ireland. Earnings per share jumped from 0.19p to 1.03p. An unchanged interim dividend of 1p is being paid.

Etonbrook dip

The absence of proceeds from development properties was largely responsible for Etonbrook Properties' pre-tax profits slumping 80.2 per cent to £300,366 in the six months to end-September. Earnings per share plunged to 4.1p (34.5p), with diluted earnings diving to 4.5p (30.1p). As usual, there is no interim dividend.

Shoprite falls

Shoprite, the discount food retailer, saw its pre-tax profits halved to £1.1 million (£2.25 million) in the year to end-October. Sales rose from £30.9 million to £45 million but operating profits fell and interest charges rose. Earnings per share fell from 16.4p to 8.7p, but the year's dividend has been held at 5.2p.

Newmark loss

Louis Newmark, the precision engineer and watch distributor, cut pre-tax losses from £526,000 to £187,000 in the half year to end-September despite depressed watch sales. The loss per share is 6.3p (11.5p) and there is no interim dividend (same).

Opticrom news lifts Fisons

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

SHARES in Fisons jumped 20p to 369p after the pharmaceuticals group said it would resume production of Opticrom, its allergic eye preparation, in the United Kingdom.

The news that manufacture can recommence follows an inspection of production methods by the Medicines Control Agency, Britain's regulatory authority, which has re-licensed all Opticrom formulations.

City experts gave the latest news a mixed reception, as the important American market, which was accounting for nearly half of Opticrom's £40 million annual sales, is still exempt. "It's a step in the right direction, although the important market [for Opticrom] is in the United States. However, this is the first bit of significant good news we've had," said Andrew Porter, an analyst at Nikko, the Japanese securities house.

The latest recovery in Fisons' share price, which exceeded 500p last year, provided further relief for shareholders, who saw the shares fall sharply after the Food and Drug Administration withdrew Opticrom and Imferon in America. Fisons said in December it would lose £65 million because of the temporary bans there.

The FDA will inspect Fisons' production facilities within the next few months, probably by mid-March, before it allows the drugs to be marketed in America again.

Sales of the two seem unlikely to resume much before the summer, however, although Fisons hopes that Tilade, a new asthma drug, will also be approved by then. However, some analysts fear that any delay in re-introducing them to the American market could cause a permanent loss of Fisons' market share.

The market also awaits news on a new chief executive to replace John Kerridge, the former chairman and chief executive who has resigned because of ill health.

Panel rejects Volvo merger

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

A SWEDISH government commission has rejected the proposed £3.7 billion merger deal between Volvo, the motor group and Procordia, a food and pharmaceutical group in which the Swedish state has an important stake. The tie-up, if allowed to proceed, would create Sweden's biggest conglomerate.

Curt Nicolin, head of the commission, said the advantages that might exist for Volvo were counter-balanced by disadvantages for Procordia, and little synergy could be detected. "The commission considers that the bid should be rejected," he told a press conference after the commission ended two days of talks.

But Mr Nicolin said the conservative government still intended to sell its Procordia stake, possibly in the next few months. The commission was established to advise the government on disposals of state assets. The final decision now rests with the government, which earlier indicated it would approve the expert panel's recommendations.

Mr Nicolin said the merger would have forged a bond between the state and private industry and delay privatisation. This would run counter to the government's intention to open Sweden's long-sheltered home market to increased competition.

Pehr Gyllenhammar, the Volvo chairman, has argued that the merger would create a Swedish group of a scale large enough to face the competitive challenge of a single European market. But his critics claim that a merger would produce an unsound concentration of power in Sweden's small economy.

Volvo and the government have equal stakes in Procordia of 42.7 per cent each of the voting rights. Although the government cannot prevent Volvo from proceeding with its takeover plan, the presence of the state as a large hostile shareholder would likely be unacceptable.

Mr Gyllenhammar, who has been largely unsuccessful in previous attempts to diversify Volvo into the oil and food sectors, clearly upset the government by launching his bid plan last Saturday. Ministers feared his move could unsettle the privatisation programme and cut the price the government would receive for its Procordia stake.

BUSINESS ROUND UP

Associated Nursing placing raises £6m

ASSOCIATED Nursing Services, the Unlisted Securities Market health care group, has raised 6.3 million through a private placing and open offer of shares. The shares were placed by the Bank of Ireland and Pelham Hunt, the broker, at 120p, a 14p premium to the opening price. ANS's shares rose 37p to 143p in response to the successful placing and the interim results.

Pre-tax profits jumped 67 per cent to 305,000 in the 28 weeks to October 12 on turnover only marginally higher at £9.4 million. Existing shareholders are also being issued with warrants, giving them the right to subscribe for up to one new share at a price of 175p, for every share they already own, at any time before the end of September 1993. However, there is no interim dividend (1p).

ECC expands in US

ECC Group, the former English China Clays, is spending £38 million upgrading its Georgia Kaolin business and is moving further into the Asian and Scandinavian markets. Andrew Teare, the ECC chief executive, said the group would spend £20 million increasing production of kaolin products by 10 per cent a year at the plant near Augusta, Georgia. The rest of the money would go into new processing plants in Japan and Finland. The new capacity in Georgia, the first phase of a 650,000 tonnes a year planned increase, would come on stream early next year. ECC is expecting expansion in the European market for kaolin, most of which goes to the paper industry, and is also keen to increase its share of the Far East market.

Partridge plummets

PARTRIDGE Fine Art, the art and antiques dealer, says there remains considerable demand for the very finest pieces, where prices have held up. But the recession has still halved profits. Pre-tax profits of £2.16 million for the year to October, compared with £4.11 million on sales of £9.64 million, down from £13.2 million. Earnings per share fell from 11.77p to 6.54p. The final dividend is 1.25p, which makes 2.25p, down from 3.85p last time. Business improved in the second half, but the period of difficult trading may continue for some time. "The significant drop in the company's American business resulting from the conflict in the Middle East is not showing signs of fully returning to its previous levels," Partridge said.

Civil engineer slides

ASSOCIATED British Consultants, the building and civil engineering consultant, suffered a 61 per cent slump in first-half profits because of the recession in the construction industry. Pre-tax profits dived from £842,000 to £327,000 in the six months to end-October on turnover down from £6.58 million to £5.36 million. Margins at the core structural engineering business remained under pressure. However, costs were reduced, reflecting staff and overhead reductions. Prospects for an improvement in the construction industry remain uncertain, although new structural engineering work has been higher in the last few months. Earnings per share slid from 7p to 2.7p, but the interim dividend is maintained at 2.2p. The shares lost 2p to 75p.

Corroon in £8m buy

WILLIS Corroon group has continued its international development with the acquisition of Richards Melling, one of the largest insurance broking groups in Canada, for £8.3 million. The company, which is based in Montreal, has 240 employees in 14 offices throughout Canada and had a 1991 turnover of Can$16.5 million (£7.8 million). The company will be renamed Willis Corroon Melling and will operate within the group's direct risk management and insurance broking business. Fred Melling, who has led the firm since 1967, will continue as chief executive. John Wooderson, chairman of Willis Corroon, will become chairman. Willis Corroon is paying just over Can$14.7 million cash, with the rest in the form of shares in the Canadian holding company.

Clarke Hooper suffers 52% drop in profits

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

CLARKE Hooper, the marketing services group, suffered a 52.5 per cent slump in first-half profits in continuing poor trading conditions.

The international sales promotion company saw pre-tax profits dive from £1.73 million to £820,000 in the six months to end October, as turnover fell from £27.7 million to £23.7 million.

The United Kingdom, where clients include Guinness, Heinz, PepsiCo and Sony, accounts for only 30 per cent of group operating profits. About 65 per cent come from America, where the group acts for most of the Japanese car manufacturers through MultiMedia, the Los Angeles sales promotion subsidiary. Other big American customers include McDonald's and Nabisco. Canada, where Labatt's is the main customer, accounts for about 5 per cent.

There was an extraordinary debit of £44,000. Earnings per share plunged from 7.1p to 2.8p, but the interim dividend was maintained at 1.7p.

Saville Gordon returns

J SAVILLE Gordon, the property, engineering and securities trading group, has bounced back into the black with pre-tax profits of £1.3 million for the six months to end-October.

In the same period of last year, the company reported a pre-tax loss of £2.4 million after its securities and commodities trading division plunged to an operating loss of £3.4 million suffering from equity portfolio write-downs. By contrast, in the first half of this year the securities division contributed an operating profit of £240,000.

Operating profits from the property division fell slightly to £3 million, but still covered a reduced group interest charge of £2.6 million.

Profits earned by the pipeholding equipment and stockholding division fell from £956,000 to £636,000.

John Saville, chairman, said he was confident that profitability would continue to improve in the second half.

The interim dividend was accordingly unchanged at 0.5p.

Air France is to increase flights from City airport

BY MARTIN WALLER

AIR France will operate seven return flights a day to Paris from London City airport from March 30, the first European carrier to announce an expansion of services since the airport was granted permission, in September, to extend the runway and bring in bigger aircraft.

Air France currently operates eight daily flights to Paris in a joint venture with Brymon Airways. The new service will be under Air France's own banner, using ATR 42 propeller-driven aircraft built by Aerospatiale, of France.

Brymon has confirmed that it intends to continue with three flights a day. A third carrier, CrossAir, operating in conjunction with Swissair, is expected to announce soon that it will fly BAe 146 jets into London City airport.

Bill Charnock, managing director of the airport, said there was interest from other carriers using BAe 146s and propeller-driven Fokker 50s, and he was confident at least two others would confirm plans to operate out of London City in time for the summer season, flying to various European capitals.

In September, Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, approved the runway extension and the use of larger aircraft such as the BAe 146, the Fokker 50 and the ATR 42. The runway extension has now been completed and will be operational in time for the start of the summer timetables on March 30.

Charnock: delighted

Mr Charnock forecast that the number of passengers using the loss-making airport would grow to the break-even point of 450,000 to 500,000 by 1993 or 1994.

London City is 90 per cent owned by John Mowlem, the building group. Since it was built four years ago, for £36 million, the airport has announced losses totalling £11 million. Airlines currently fly from the airport to Paris, Brussels and Rotterdam, but the key to future viability is the ability to bring in flights from much further afield in Europe using the larger aircraft.

Mr Charnock said: "We are delighted that Air France has chosen London City as a major centre for business travel in Europe.

"This confirms our optimism in the future of the airport and is the first of a number of announcements we expect in the coming weeks from airlines offering new or extended routes."

Rifkind confirms Teesside is winner

BY ROBB TIEMAN

MALCOLM Rifkind, the transport secretary, yesterday confirmed Teesside Holdings as the successful bidder for the assets of the Tees & Hartlepool Port Authority (THPA). However, he failed to quell the controversy surrounding the first privatisation of one of Britain's trust ports.

John Hackney, the head of the unsuccessful management and employee consortium, said he would consult lawyers with a view to seeking a judicial review of Mr Rifkind's decision.

Geoffrey Parker, the chairman of Maritime Transport Services, which bid £22 million more than the £180 million offered for the port by Teesside, said he was "reconsidering" his interest in other trust ports.

Mr Rifkind said he had paid careful attention to representations from the management consortium and MTS and had taken legal advice from counsel before confirming the sale recommendation made by the THPA board.

Mr Rifkind gave a detailed rebuttal of a series of charges that the board had failed to pay proper heed to its own criteria for assessing the four competing bids for the port assets. However, Mr Parker said Mr Rifkind's position was "very hard to understand." He added: "In the absence of a clear explanation, it makes us question our involvement in further trust port bids."

Mr Hackney said Mr Rifkind's decision was likely to stymie privatisation moves by any port which had not already embarked on the sale process. He said: "If this government is returned to power, I think the secretary of state will have to use his powers to force the rest of the trust ports into the private sector. Otherwise, they will just stay as they are."

Putting a value on the intangible

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

INTANGIBLE assets such as brand names and publishing tides can be valued consistently and separately for balance sheet purposes, according to a report drawn up by Arthur Andersen, the accountant, and submitted to the Accounting Standards Board.

The report was commissioned in May 1991 by 11 household-name consumer goods, publishing and pharmaceutical companies, including Grand Metropolitan, Guinness and Cadbury Schweppes: it aims to influence the deliberations of the ASB, which will build up later this year, on new accounting standards for goodwill and intangibles.

Most of the companies already include some valuation for brand names or similar intangibles, usually to protect their balance sheets after taking over companies at prices that include a large goodwill premium over balance sheet worth, which would otherwise have to be written off. They were anxious to counter a 1989 report by the London Business School, which came out against valuing brands in balance sheets, and a subsequent exposure draft from the former Accounting Standards Committee. This proposed that, in the exceptional cases where intangibles were included, they should normally be written off over 20 years or less.

The Arthur Andersen study says that there are internationally consistent methods for valuing intangibles and that these are widely accepted for tax purposes in America, for licensing agreements and financing.

The accountant accepts that cost is irrelevant and comparable market values are often not available but suggests intangibles should be valued on their economic worth in terms of the discounted present value of future profits or cash flow based on past performance.

David Nash, finance director of Grand Metropolitan, said that recognising the value of intangibles "would be a step forward to making balance sheets mean something".

Brand names, intellectual property rights such as patents, publishing rights and licences could all often be valued separately from associated tangible assets in this way. Graham Walker, of Arthur Andersen, said there was a presumption that intangible assets existed when takeovers included a high payment for goodwill. The valuation would normally be lower than the goodwill.

The study argues that, unless they have a limited life, as in the case of patents, intangibles should be regularly valued but not depreciated.

Advertising and promotion costs to maintain brand names would be deducted from profits in calculating their value. Ray Hinton, of Arthur Andersen, acknowledged that it would be logical for all working assets and intangible assets to be valued regularly on the same basis. However, the report stops short of recommending any formal accounting treatment.

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Monthly mortgage lending falls 15%

By Sara McConnell

GROSS mortgage lending dropped by 14.8 per cent to £3.2 billion in December and net new mortgage commitments fell sharply to £2.5 billion, down from just over £3 billion in November, according to the Building Societies Association.

Mark Boleat, the association's director general, announced yesterday that the level of gross mortgage lending was similar to the figure for December 1990 and could "largely be explained by seasonal factors", as the Christmas and New Year holiday reduced house buying activity.

"The relative weakness of net new commitments and commitments outstanding in December suggest that lending will be subdued in the next few months," he said. "There is some evidence that interest in house purchases has increased but it will be a little time before any such increase shows through in the lending figures."

Building societies recorded a continuing outflow of savings in December for the second month running with net receipts falling by £54 million. In November, withdrawals exceeded deposits by £49 million as investors used savings to apply for shares in the recent British Telecom flotation.

This was the first time net receipts had fallen since November 1990, when savers withdrew money for shares in the 12 regional electricity companies.

Mr Boleat said the continuing fall in net receipts in December had been expected. "The pattern of building society savings in December continued to be distorted by the British Telecom flotation at the beginning of this month.

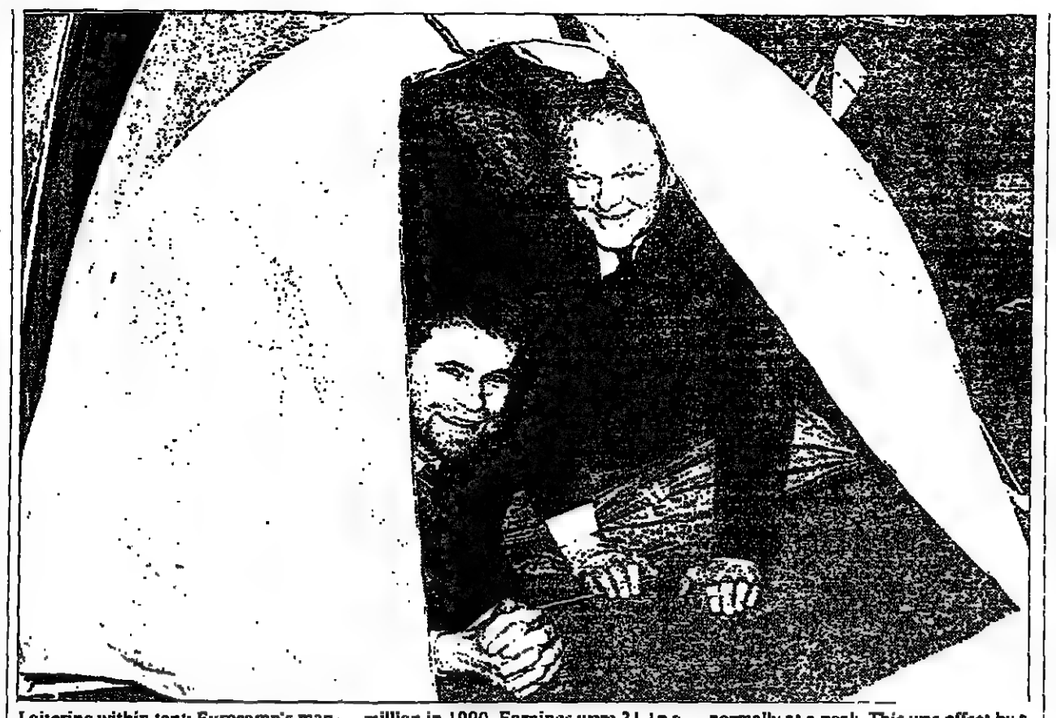
"As expected, cash associated with unsuccessful share applications and the sale of BT shares has been slow to find its way back into society accounts. Also recent evidence suggests that savings are being held back by households' desire to restrain borrowing."

The association is "optimistic" that the figures for January will show a small net inflow of funds. Money coming in from savers topping up their tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas) should make an impact. Those who opened accounts when they first became available in January 1990 are allowed to put in up to £1,800 this year.

But the association said: "We are not sure how much Tessa savings will be reflected in the figures because a lot of savings will be transferred from existing accounts. On the whole, the savings picture is weak and people are using their savings to pay off credit cards and reduce other borrowings."

Christmas shoppers appear to have dipped into their building society savings rather than run up debt. Recent government and Bank of England figures confirmed a reluctance to borrow.

Economists say people are worried about unemployment and anxious to pay off previous large debts. Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, would like to see an upturn in consumer demand to help the economy out of recession. He is also hoping for a revival of the housing market, but the figures from the BSA show little comfort as yet.



Loitering within tent: Eurocamp's managing director, Richard Atkinson (left) and chairman, Tom Neville, said the camping holiday specialist has comfortably met profit forecasts issued when it was floated last year. Pro-forma pre-tax profits for the 12 months to end-October were £8.2 million, against forecasts of £8.02 million and an actual £5.7 million in 1990. Earnings were 21.1p a share, compared with 19.1p, and there is a maiden final dividend of 5.5p, as promised. The shares fell 11p to 327p on profit taking yesterday, but are at a premium to the flotation price of 225p. The company said the Gulf war had an adverse impact on trading in the first quarter last year, when bookings are normally at a peak. This was offset by a modest recovery in Britain later and strong growth in The Netherlands and Germany. Early booking promotions this year produced "satisfactory" returns, stimulated by the appointment of Eurocamp and a subsidiary, Sunsites, as selected tour operators for Euro Disney in France. Tempus page 18

EC wants insurance blueprint

From Reuter in Brussels

ALL European Community countries should lay down minimum standards for insurance brokers and make sure that any links between them and insurance companies are disclosed, says the European Commission.

In a recommendation to EC governments, it called for action to ensure consumers could take advantage of wider choice of insurance policies once barriers to cross-border trade are abolished in the post-1992 single market.

The Commission asked governments to report by the end of 1994 on what measures they had taken. It said it reserved the right to propose binding EC legislation if its recommendation did not produce results. The Community has already agreed to allow consumers to buy life insurance from a local insurance broker offered by a company in another EC state.

"The emerging market will give European consumers more choice than ever between competing companies and products. This increases the need for qualified insurance intermediaries." Sir Leon Brittan, the EC commissioner responsible for financial services, said.

Retailers remain wary despite increased sales

By Gillian Bowditch

JANUARY sales have proved to be slightly stronger than retailers had expected, with turnover up on last year, but there is still no sign of a general upturn. Retailers say that the start of the Gulf War in January last year made the 1990 winter sale one of the worst ever.

Geoffrey Maitland Smith, chairman of Sears, which includes Selfridges, Dolcis, Adams, Wallis, Warehouse and Olympus Sport, said he believed retailers were experiencing sales in January 4 per cent to 5 per cent up on last year, but he added that trading was abysmal in January of last year.

He said: "For the first fortnight of the Gulf War, people stayed at home and watched the reports coming in from the Gulf. No-one was buying anything. This January, footwear and clothing are showing signs of picking up, but on the whole, customers are still buying what they need rather than what they want."

Mr Maitland Smith believes consumer confidence is unlikely to recover before the election, when consumers will be more certain about how much they will have to spend for the rest of the year.

Richard Dixon, spokesman for Storehouse, which includes Mothercare, BhS, Habitat, Blazer and Richards, said the first few days of the sale had been extremely strong and overall takings were well up on last year. Sales this January are roughly in line with January 1989, when Storehouse benefited from a good BhS performance. He said: "Trading has been stronger since the beginning of October. We do not expect a general upturn before the Budget although womenswear is showing a slightly firmer trend."

Maitland Smith: sales up

Andrew Higginson, finance director of Laura Ashley, said: "The whole Christmas and new year period was better than we expected. We held out for full margin before the sale and then during the sale we sold the bulk of goods at the first discount price. Although turnover for the group was down overall, margins were the same or slightly ahead of last year."

John Lewis, which reports its sales figures weekly, said Christmas was not a vintage one for the department stores. Sales peaked at a record £42 million but that was below the group's estimate. Waitrose, the group's supermarket chain, had a better Christmas with sales 10 per cent up on last Christmas and well ahead of estimates.

After a strong start to the January sales, with sales significantly ahead of last year, trading last week was thin at the group's department stores.

Nigel Whittaker, chairman of the Confederation of British Industry Distributive Trades Survey, said the level of optimism among retailers depended on when they were surveyed. In the week beginning December 13, retailers, depressed by the poor start to Christmas, said they expected January to be worse. By Christmas week, when sales were strong, they felt more positive about prospects for the new year.

Overall, the retailers surveyed by the CBI expect January sales volumes to show the first fall after five months of modest improvement.

Germans dampen UK rate hopes

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

A PICK-UP in German money supply, combined with a forecast from a Bundesbank board member that German inflation shows no signs of early slowing, dampened speculation that Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, will cut British rates in the Budget.

The mark strengthened sharply after the Bundesbank figures and the speech from Otmar Issing, its board member, pushing the dollar back below DM1.60. The pound retreated to DM2.8681, down well over a quarter pfennig. A survey showing a fresh dip in American consumer confidence depressed the dollar further.

Bundesbank figures showed Germany's broad money supply measure, M3, growing at an annualised 5.7 per cent in December, up from 5.1 per cent in November. The annual rate for the fourth quarter was 5.2 per cent, which overshot the target growth range of 3 to 5 per cent. The Bundesbank played down the overshoot, underlining that it was only a "minimal" 0.2 per cent outside the range. For this year, it has been set at 3.5 to 5.5 per cent.

Herr Issing noted that since the middle of last year M3 had grown at an annual 8 per cent, accelerating to 9.5 per cent in the last three months, mainly reflecting higher lending. He gave warning that the "hardening of the inflation mentality endangers economic growth and with it the opportunity for a rise in real earnings."

☐ Carlos Solchaga, the Spanish economy minister, ruled out any early move to put the peseta in the narrow, 2.25 fluctuation bands of the European exchange-rate mechanism. He said Spain would not cut interest rates while its inflation was relatively high.

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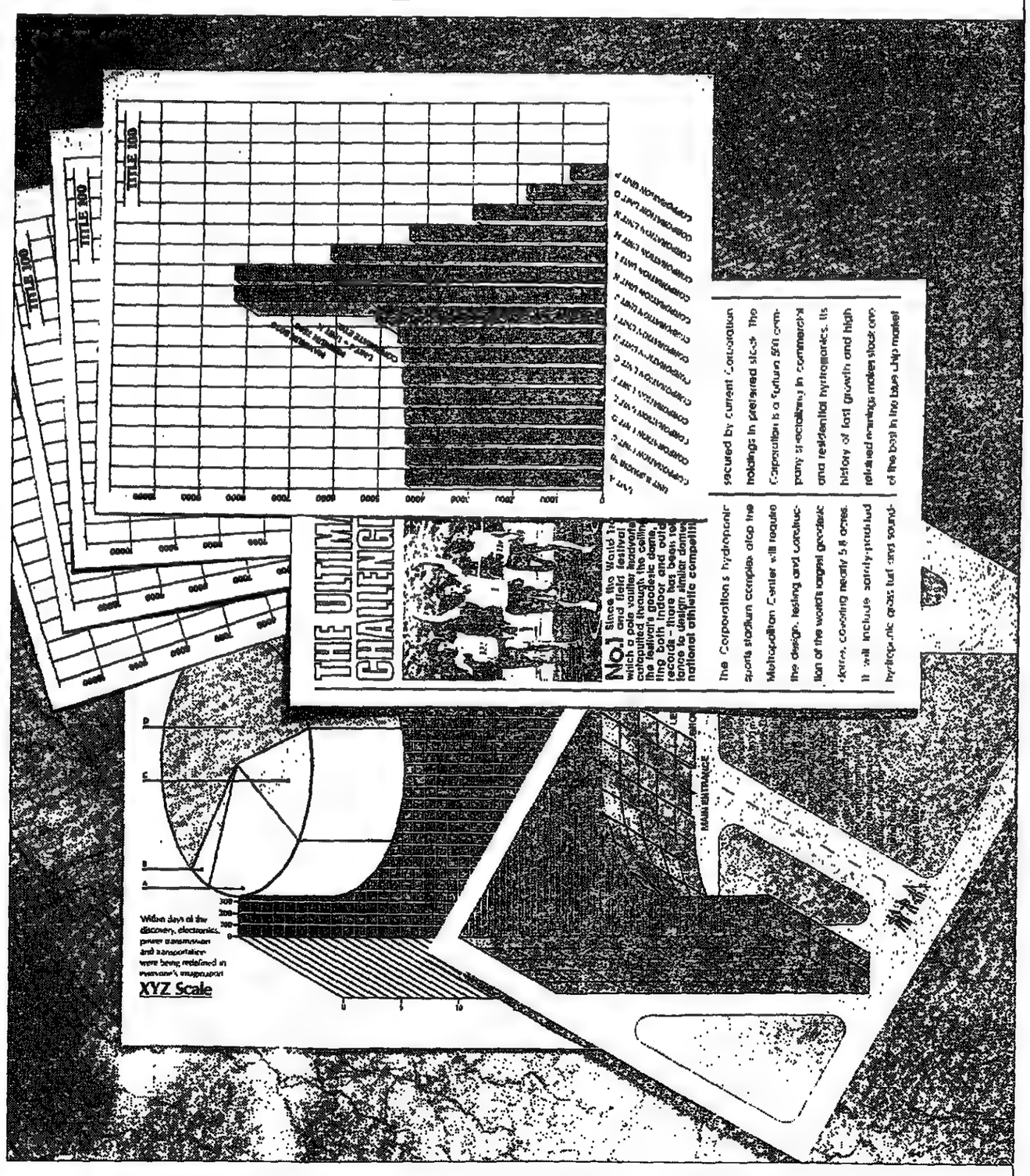

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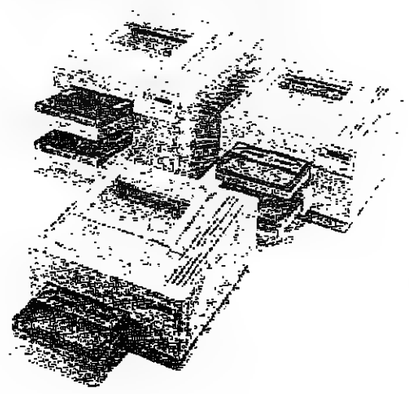

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TEMPUS

Eurocamp holds its place in the sun

LAST year was a dull one for new issues but Eurocamp bucked the trend and continues to enjoy strong support. The shares, offered at 225p last June, yesterday closed at 327p and have consistently defied those who thought the issue price was on the high side.

The stock has undoubtedly benefited from the success of other quoted holiday companies, notably Airtours, but a solid performance in a difficult year should encourage investors to support the company on its own merits.

Profits for the year to end-October comfortably met flotation forecasts, with profits rising from £5.7 million before tax to £8 million on a pro forma basis, giving earnings of 21.1p a share, from which a maiden final dividend of 5.5p is paid.

Profits advanced despite the outbreak of war in the Gulf last January which affected consumer interest during what is normally Eurocamp's busiest period. United Kingdom profits were also affected by high mortgage rates and stiff competition from Airtours' own self-drive holiday company. In fact, growth was attributed almost entirely to Eurocamp's operations in Holland and Germany, which accounted for 35 per cent of bookings.

Competition remains intense this year but the impact should be offset by improved demand now mortgage rates have fallen. The company was chosen as tour operator for Euro Disney which should have a swift positive impact. In the longer term benefits will accrue from the Channel tunnel, which will encourage self-drive holidays, and the growth of the key 33 to 44 age group, Eurocamp's main market.

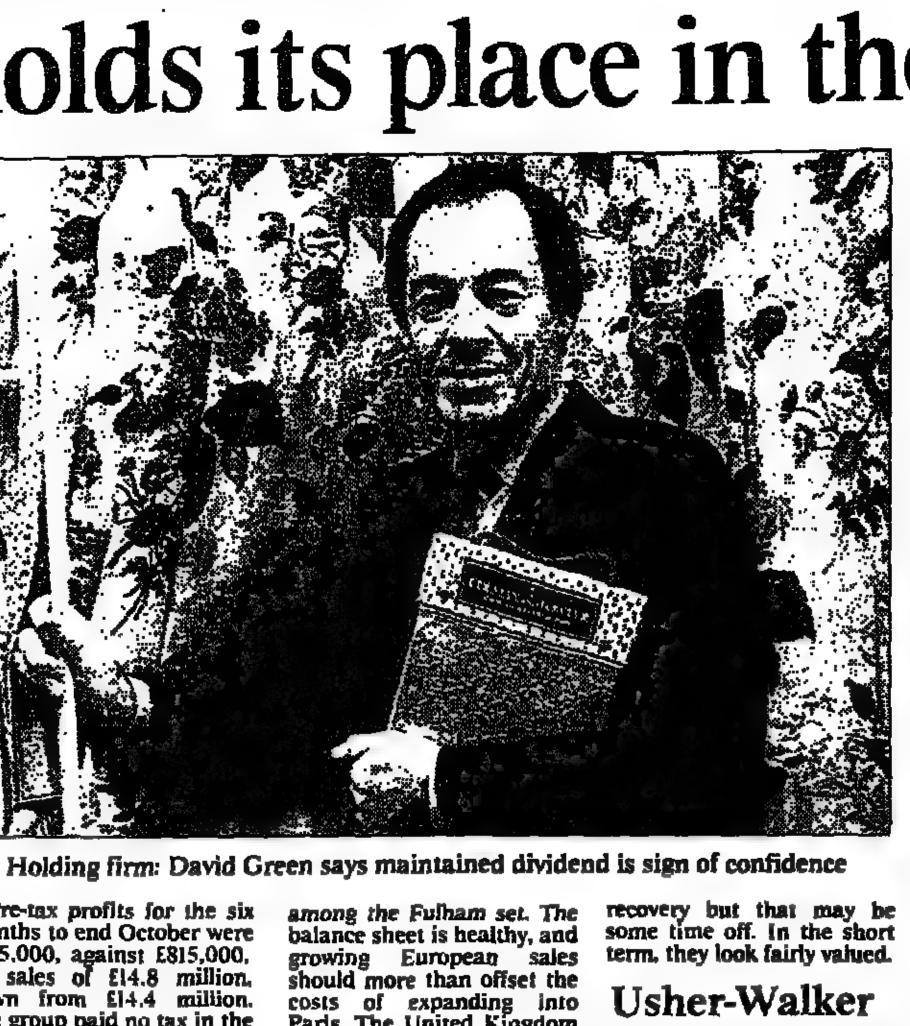
Charles Mason, the BZW analyst, expects profits of £9.2 million this year, with earnings of 24.1p. The price/earnings ratio of 13.4 places Eurocamp on a small premium to Airtours and reflects the steady nature of its earnings, which are not exposed to sudden changes in oil prices or volatile currency markets. Eurocamp's Achilles' heel is its uneven cash flow, which could restrain longer-term growth.

Colefax and Fowler

FADING customers joined faded elegance as the latest fashion at Colefax and Fowler, the prestige wallpaper and furnishings group, as the recession bit deeper.

David Green, the chief executive, says the group has seen no signs of improvement in any of its principal markets and the directors believe that a change is unlikely in the near future.

It will have come as no surprise to shareholders that the group, which in 1989/90 made profits of more than £4 million, has been badly hit by the recession. The slumps in the housing market and consumer confidence made it a prime target.



Holding firm: David Green says maintained dividend is sign of confidence

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end October were £505,000, against £815,000, on sales of £14.8 million, down from £14.4 million. The group paid no tax in the six months, and earnings per share were 2p, down from 2.36p. The interim dividend has been held at 1.3p which, Mr Green says, is a sign of the directors' confidence.

While trading may be tough, however, the group has strengths. The Colefax and Fowler brand name is one of the strongest in the business, with the Jane Churchill brand a favourite among the Fulham set. The balance sheet is healthy, and growing European sales should more than offset the costs of expanding into Paris. The United Kingdom now accounts for 40 per cent of sales and America for 45 per cent.

The shares, down 2p at 59p, are trading on 13.7 times current year earnings, assuming profits of £1.1 million for the full year, and 11.8 times next year's earnings, assuming profits of £1.5 million (Kleinwort Benson). The shares are worth holding for recovery but that may be some time off. In the short term, they look fairly valued.

Usher-Walker

DAVID Williams, the man who transformed Press Tools, the sleepy Midland engineer, into Mosaic Investments, the Teenage Mutant Turtle licence holder, is at it again.

Eight months after he moved into Usher-Walker, a family controlled ink and roller maker, Mr Williams has pulled off his first major acquisition, the £3.8 million purchase of HDP, a press-room chemicals manufacturer, from the receivers.

This time Mr Williams is taking a different tack, using synergy benefits to build on a sound core business, rather than completely transforming the nature of the original company. However, there is a catch. Before shareholders can enjoy the juicy profits from the acquisition programme, they first have to take the pain of what will be a grim set of 1991 figures.

The company has warned that poor fourth-quarter trading and a number of exceptional restructuring costs "will have a significant effect" on last year's profits. Given that the company made only £400,000 before tax in 1990, this may mean that Usher-Walker will be reporting little better than a breakeven result in April. For the benefit of sceptical shareholders there is a commitment to hold the final dividend at 3.75p, making 5.75p against 5.5p.

Usher is to finance the HDP deal, and a £789,000 French acquisition also announced yesterday, through a £6 million placing and one-for-one offer of new shares at 155p. The fund-raising will reduce gearing to 35 per cent and leave the company well placed for the next stage of growth.

Usher could make £1.6 million in the current year. City confidence in the track record of Mr Williams means that the shares trade on a fairly demanding prospective PE ratio of about 13.

WORLD MARKETS

Disney helps Dow to move higher

New York — Shares, which had lost a small early advance, rose in the mid-morning after Walt Disney opened. The Dow Jones industrial average had shown little movement when Disney, a component of the Dow average, opened nearly 5 higher after an order imbalance and this lifted the Dow 8.39 points to 3,249.

☐ Hong Kong — Prices finished firmer, but below the day's highs, as profit-taking emerged when the Hang Seng index failed to breach the 4,600 level, brokers said.

The Hang Seng index ended 31.60 points higher at 4,586.33. Turnover edged ahead to HK$2.05 billion (£148 million), against Monday's turnover of HK$2.04 billion. The broader Hong Kong index was up 20.42 points to 2,994.19.

☐ Frankfurt — Shares ended floor-trading virtually unchanged as caution gripped the market after a week of near seven-month highs. The Dax index closed 0.5 of a point down, at 1,683.08.

☐ Sydney — Shares closed higher after recovering from the sale of a large British portfolio. The all-ordinaries index closed 10.1 points up at 1,626.

☐ Singapore — Prices closed lower on profit-taking. The Straits Times industrial index ended at 1,538.28, down 7.64 points. *(Reuter)*

Futures lift Nikkei

Tokyo — Prices closed higher in thin trading, pulled up by a technical recovery in the futures market. The Nikkei index rose 383.41 points, or 1.83 per cent, to 21,390.52.

In the absence of heavy selling, bargain-hunting and futures-linked buying raised prices, but most investors remained on the sidelines as a result of worries about excess supply as well as political scandals. The market opened higher on firm futures prices. The Nikkei reached its peak for the day just before the close, when it climbed 413.67 points. Turnover was about 160 million shares, compared with 137 million on Monday.

Rising issues outnumbered falls by three to two, with 548 higher, 350 lower and 203 unchanged. *(Reuter)*

WALL STREET

	Jan 28 midday	Jan 27 close
AMP Inc	64¼	64½
AMR Corp	69⅝	70⅛
Abbott Labs	61½	62¼
Aetna Life	45⅛	45⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	17⅞	17¾
Air Prod & Chem	80	80
Albertson's	38⅝	38⅝
Alcan Aluminium	21	21⅛
Alco Standard	34¼	34½
Allied Signal	47¼	46⅞
Alum Co of Am	66	67
Amax	20⅞	21
Amerada Hess	47¼	46
Amer Brands	46¼	46⅞
Amer Cyanamid	61¼	61¼
Amer El Power	32⅞	32½
Amer Express	22⅞	22⅞
Amer Genl Corp	42⅞	42¼
Amer Home Pr	78⅜	78⅝
Amer Intl	90⅜	91⅛
Amer Stores	51⅜	51⅛
Amer T & T	38	38⅛
Ameritech	63⅞	63⅞
Amoco	47⅛	47⅝
Anheuser-Busch	58⅝	58⅛
Apple Computer	63¼	64⅛
Archer Daniels	30⅛	30⅛
Arkla	10⅝	11
Armco	6⅛	6⅛
Armstrong Wrld	34⅝	34⅜
Asarco	23⅞	23⅞
Ashland Oil	31⅛	31⅛
Atl Richfield	110¼	108
Auto Data Pro	43⅛	43⅛
Avery Dennison	24¼	24⅛
Avon Products	47⅛	47⅛
Baker Hughes	20⅛	20⅛
Baltim Gas & El	32½	32⅛
Banc One	50⅛	49⅞
BankAmerica	39⅞	39⅛
Bank of NY	37⅛	36⅝
Bankers Tr NY	65⅞	66⅛
Barnett Bks Fl	33⅛	33⅛
Bausch & Lomb	55	59
Baxter Intl	35⅞	36⅛
Bectn Dickson	70⅞	71
Bell Atlantic	46⅛	46⅞
BellSouth	50	50⅛
Black & Decker	21⅛	21⅛
Block (H&R)	59⅛	58⅛
Boeing	50⅞	50⅞
Boise Cascade	23⅛	23⅛
Borden Inc	33⅞	33⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	81⅛	81⅛
Browning Ferris	22⅞	22⅞
Burlington Nthn	40⅞	40⅞
CBS	141½	141⅛
CNA Financial	92⅞	92
CPC Intl	84¼	84⅛
CSX	57⅛	56⅛
Campbell Soup	40⅛	40⅝
Can Pacific	15⅝	15⅛
Cpd Cities ABC	428⅛	428
Cpd Holdings	59⅛	57⅛
Carolina Pwr	49⅛	49⅝
Caterpillar	46⅛	47⅛
Central & SW	52⅞	52⅛
Champion Intl	25⅛	26
Chase Manhat	21⅛	21⅛
Chemical Bk	25⅛	25⅛
Chevron Corp	65⅛	65⅛
Chrysler	15⅛	15
Chubb Corp	71⅛	70⅛
Cigna Corp	56⅛	56⅛
Citicorp	15⅛	15
Clorox	45⅛	44⅛
Coastal Corp	24⅛	24⅛
Coca Cola	75⅛	75⅛
Colgate Palm	47⅛	47⅛
Columbia Gas	18⅛	18⅛
Commonw Ed	37⅛	37⅛
Compaq Comp	32⅛	33
Comp Ass Intl	14⅛	14⅛
Conagra	34⅛	34⅛
Cons Edison	28⅛	28⅛
Cons Nat Gas	37⅛	37
Cons Rail	81⅛	80⅛
Cooper Inds	57⅛	57⅛
Corning Inc	60⅛	61
Crown Cork	84⅛	85⅛
Dana Corp	32	32
Dayton Hudson	66⅛	66⅛
Deere	50	50⅛
Delta Air Lines	70⅛	71⅛
Deluxe Corp	39	38⅛
Detroit Edison	33	33⅛
Digital Equip	51⅛	51
Dillard Dept St	124⅛	125
Disney (Walt)	137⅛	132⅛
Dominion Res	37⅛	37⅛
Donnelley (RR)	50⅛	50⅛
Dover Corp	41⅛	41
Dow Chemicals	54⅛	54⅛
Dow Jones	29⅛	30⅛
Dresser	19⅛	19⅛
Duke Power	33	33⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	55⅛	54⅛
Du Pont	47⅛	48
Eastman Kodak	49	49⅛
Eaton Corp	67⅛	67⅛

	Jan 28 midday	Jan 27 close
Emerson Elec	55⅛	56⅛
Engelhard Corp	37⅛	37⅛
Enron Corp	72	72⅛
Entergy Corp	28	28⅛
Ethyl Corp	25⅛	25⅛
Exxon	60⅛	60⅛
FMC Corp	50⅛	50⅛
FPL Group	36⅛	36⅛
Federal Express	45⅛	45⅛
Fed Nat Mtge	66⅛	66⅛
First Chicago	25⅛	25⅛
First Interstate	34	34⅛
First Union Rlty	7⅛	7⅛
FleetNorstar	28⅛	28⅛
Fluor Corp	45⅛	46
Ford Motor	33	32⅛
GTE Corp	32	32
Gannett	45⅛	45⅛
Gap Inc Del	52⅛	53⅛
Gen Cinema	20⅛	20⅛
Gen Dynamics	57	56⅛
Gen Electric	78⅛	78⅛
Gen Mills	70⅛	70⅛
Gen Motors	34⅛	34⅛
Gen Reinsurance	97	97
Gen Signal	55⅛	56
Genuine Parts	45	45⅛
Georgia Pac	65⅛	64⅛
Gillette	50⅛	51⅛
Goodrich (BF)	51⅛	51⅛
Goodyear Tire	55⅛	56⅛
Grace (WR)	41⅛	41⅛
Gt Atl Pac Tea	29⅛	30
Great West Fin	18⅛	18⅛
Halliburton	27⅛	27⅛
Heinz (HJ)	41⅛	41
Hercules	45⅛	45⅛
Hershey Foods	42⅛	42⅛
Hewlett Packard	60⅛	60⅛
Hilton Hotels	42	42⅛
Home Depot	63⅛	63⅛
Homestake	15⅛	15⅛
Honeywell	70⅛	71⅛
Household Intl	50⅛	49⅛
Houston Inds	42⅛	42⅛
Humana	29	29⅛
ITT Corp	58⅛	58⅛
Illinois Tool	62⅛	62⅛
INCO	32⅛	32⅛
Ingersoll Rand	59⅛	59⅛
Inland Steel	24⅛	24⅛
Intel Corp	60⅛	61⅛
IBM	93	93⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	100⅛	99⅛
Intl Paper	75⅛	74⅛
James River Va	23	22⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	105⅛	104⅛
K Mart	48⅛	48⅛
Kellogg	59⅛	59⅛
Kerr-McGee	37⅛	37⅛
Kimberly-Clark	48⅛	49
Knight-Ridder	54⅛	57⅛
Lilly (Eli)	79⅛	80⅛
Limited Inc	29	28⅛
Lin Broadcstg	75⅛	75
Lincoln Nat	58	58⅛
Litton	94⅛	94⅛
Liz Claiborne	41⅛	41⅛
Lockheed Corp	47⅛	41⅛
Louisiana Pac	57	54⅛
MCI Commun	32⅛	32⅛
Marriott	18⅛	18⅛
Marsh & McLen	77⅛	77⅛
Martin Marietta	50⅛	51⅛
Masco Corp	25⅛	25⅛
May Dept St	57⅛	56⅛
Maytag Corp	16⅛	16⅛
McCaw Cellular	33⅛	33⅛
McDonalds	42⅛	42⅛
McDonnell D	70⅛	70⅛
McGraw Hill	60⅛	60⅛
Mead Corp	36⅛	37⅛
Medtronic	83⅛	83⅛
Mellon Bk	37⅛	37⅛
Melville Corp	47⅛	47
Merck Inc	157⅛	151⅛
Merrill Lynch	61	61⅛
Minnesota Mine	93⅛	93⅛
Mobil Corp	67⅛	67⅛
Monsanto	65⅛	66⅛
Morgan (JP)	62⅛	63
Motorola Inc	77⅛	78⅛
Natl Medical	16⅛	16⅛
Natl Semi	8	8⅛
Natl Service Ind	24⅛	24⅛
Navistar Int	3⅛	3⅛
NBD Bancorp	29⅛	29⅛
NY Times A	27	27⅛
Newmont Mng	46⅛	45⅛
Niag Mohawk	18⅛	18⅛
Nike B	73⅛	72⅛
NL Industries	11⅛	11⅛
Nordstrom	38⅛	39
Norfolk Sthrn	56	56⅛
Nthn State Pwr	41⅛	41⅛
Norwest Corp	34⅛	34⅛
Nynex Corp	77	76⅛
Occidental Pet	19⅛	19⅛
Ohio Edison	19⅛	19⅛
Oracle Systems	18⅛	19

	Jan 28 midday	Jan 27 close
Oryx Energy Co	25⅛	25
PNC Financial	48⅛	49
PPG Industries	57⅛	58⅛
Paccar Inc	51⅛	50⅛
Pacificorp	22⅛	22⅛
Pac Enterprises	25⅛	25⅛
Pac Gas & Elec	31⅛	30⅛
Pac Telesis	42	42⅛
Pall Corp	30⅛	30⅛
Panhandle East	14⅛	14⅛
Paramount Comm	41⅛	41⅛
Parker Hannifin	32⅛	32⅛
Penney (JC)	55⅛	55⅛
Pennzoil	52⅛	53⅛
Pepsico	32⅛	32⅛
Pfizer	74⅛	75⅛
Phelps Dodge	76⅛	75
Philadel Elec	24⅛	24⅛
Philip Morris	76⅛	76⅛
Phillips Pet	24	24⅛
Pitney Bowes	67	67⅛
Polaroid	24⅛	25
Price Co	48	47
Primerica	42	41⅛
Procter & Gmbl	96⅛	97⅛
Pub Serv E & G	29⅛	29⅛
Quaker Oats	67⅛	67⅛
Ralston Purina	54⅛	54⅛
Raychem Corp	30⅛	31⅛
Raytheon	82⅛	82⅛
Reebok Intl	33⅛	32⅛
Reynolds Metals	53⅛	53⅛
Roadway Srvs	67⅛	67⅛
Rockwell Intl	27⅛	27⅛
Rohm & Haas	46⅛	45⅛
Royal Dutch	82⅛	82
Rubbermaid	35⅛	35⅛
Safeco Corp	47⅛	48
St Paul's Cos	75	73
Salomon Inc	29⅛	29⅛
Santa Fe S Pac	12⅛	12⅛
Sara Lee Corp	53⅛	54⅛
Seccorp	41⅛	42⅛
Schering Plough	63⅛	63⅛
Schlumberger	61⅛	61⅛
Scott Paper	41⅛	40
Seagram	120	120⅛
Sears Roebuck	42⅛	42
Sec Pacific	33⅛	33⅛
Shell Trans	53	52⅛
Sherwin Wlms	27⅛	27⅛
Skyline Corp	16⅛	16⅛
Snap-On-Tools	34⅛	34⅛
Southern Co	32⅛	33⅛
Sthwestern Bell	62⅛	62⅛
Stanley Works	44⅛	44⅛
Sun Company	28⅛	28⅛
Suntrust	38⅛	38⅛
Super Valu	27⅛	27⅛
Syntex Corp	48⅛	49⅛
Sysco Corp	44⅛	43⅛
TRW Inc	43⅛	43⅛
Tandem Comp	12⅛	12⅛
Tandy Corp	25⅛	26
Telecom Corp	1	1
Teledyne	25	25
Temple Inland	54⅛	54⅛
Tenneco	35⅛	36⅛
Texaco	61⅛	61⅛
Texas Inst	35⅛	35⅛
Texas Utilities	39⅛	39⅛
Textron	37⅛	37⅛
Time Warner	92⅛	92⅛
Times-Mirror	34⅛	33⅛
Timken	25⅛	25⅛
Torchmark	59⅛	58⅛
Toys R Us	33⅛	33⅛
Transamerica	42	41⅛
Travelers Corp	22⅛	22⅛
Tribune	43⅛	43⅛
Tyco Labs	37	37⅛
UAL Corp	143	145
UST Inc	30	30⅛
USX Marathon	23⅛	23⅛
Unilever NV	102⅛	101⅛
Union Camp	51⅛	51⅛
Union Carbide	23⅛	24
Union Pacific	45⅛	45⅛
Unisys Corp	7⅛	7⅛
USAIR Group	15⅛	15⅛
USF&G Corp	9⅛	9
US Life	40⅛	40⅛
US West	36⅛	37
United Tech	50⅛	50⅛
Utd Telecomms	24⅛	24⅛
Unocal Corp	22⅛	22⅛
Upjohn	41⅛	41
VF Corp	41	40⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	55⅛	56
Warner-Lambert	73⅛	73⅛
Waste Mngment	45⅛	46
Wells Fargo	68	68⅛
Westinghouse El	18⅛	18⅛
Weyerhaeuser	32⅛	31⅛
Whirlpool	42⅛	41⅛
Whitman	14⅛	14⅛
Winn Dixie	38⅛	38⅛
Woolworth	28⅛	29
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	80⅛	79⅛
Xerox	69	69⅛

SAS sets its sights on Swedish domestic airline

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

SAS, the Scandinavian airline, is determined not to miss out in the corporate shake-out that the conservative government in Sweden has triggered with its drive to privatise and deregulate.

In an interview with *The Times*, Jan Carlzon, the SAS president, indicated that his airline, half of which is owned by the governments of Sweden, Norway and Denmark, has its eye firmly on Linjeflyg, the Swedish domestic carrier, as part of its broader strategy. The state is an important shareholder in Linjeflyg through ABA, which owns 50 per cent of airline. The other half of the company is held by Bilspedition, the freight group, which seeks to back out of the airline after an unhappy flirtation with the sector.

An attempt by SAS to take over the loss-making Linjeflyg and its 5 million passengers could, however, find opposition from the government which is aiming to foster competition. The government has been angered by the £3.7 billion bid from Volvo for Procordia, the food and pharmaceutical group part-owned by the state, as it appears to be an attempt by Volvo to force the pace of privatisation and ensure that state assets do not go to foreign rivals.

Carlzon: no subsidy

Mr Carlzon, whose airline comes under European Community rules through Denmark's involvement, is highly critical of the current regulatory situation, in which cross-border mergers are effectively blocked. He foresees deregulation in Europe next year reducing the number of bigger carriers to a handful, with the rest relegated to niche players. His fear is that European airlines with too small a share of their home base will be exposed to aggressive expansion of the American mega-carriers.

"We strongly want totally free competition in Europe," Mr Carlzon said. "They [Brussels] have to set competition free, not just prices. The market must be open to mergers. And subsidies need to be ended." He said SAS, which has receives no subsidies, had only 57 per cent of its home market, the lowest percentage of any leading European carrier. "Unless we have a good grip on our home market, I don't see how we can compete fairly in Europe," he said. He noted that British Airways had 65 per cent of its home market and many national carriers, such as Air France, had total control. He attributed SAS's low share to its ownership being spread across three countries, a factor likely to complicate moves by the Scandinavian governments to dispose of their holdings.

Mr Carlzon left no doubt that a tie-up between British Airways and KLM would hit SAS, western Europe's fourth biggest airline, hard. But with the financial merger option closed for the present, SAS had to go for "alliances", such as that established with Swissair and Austrian Air. Its stakes in British Midland and Continental, expected to emerge soon from chapter 11 administration, are key parts of SAS global strategy.

STOCK MARKET

Allied-Lyons tops list in the Hanson target guessing game

THE news that **Hanson** will not be bidding for **ICI** means that the speculators can begin working out which company the acquisitive industrial conglomerate will target next. There is a small number of candidates and the field is certain to grow. However, the favourite at the moment is **Allied-Lyons**, the big food and drinks group.

Allied found itself on the receiving end of an unwanted bid — from Elders IXL, the Australian brewery — in 1985. The bid was referred to the monopolies commission. More recently, Allied has been seen as a target for Anheuser-Busch of America, the world's biggest brewery, and Philip Morris, the American food and tobacco group.

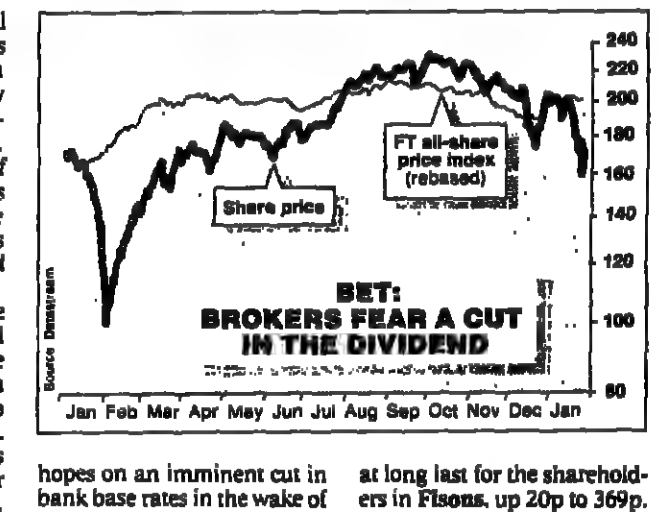
Allied is regarded in some quarters as an ideal target for Hanson. The group is capable of strong earnings growth, but would be easy to break up.

Allied recovered from an early 5p fall to finish 6p dearer at 642p as 1.5 million shares changed hands. **United Biscuits**, 3p stronger at 408p, is also thought to be a potential target for Hanson.

Hanson lost an early lead to finish 6½p cheaper at 208p. The address by Lord Hanson, the chairman, may have impressed the private shareholders, but it appeared to make little impact on the City. Hanson continues to enjoy a paper profit on its 2.8 per cent stake in ICI, which ended only 2p lower on the day at £12.67. Hanson paid £11.94 a share for its investment.

The rest of the equity market continued to make headway despite the latest CBI survey. This showed a continuing decline in orders and business confidence.

Dealers in the Square Mile appear to be pinning their hopes on an imminent cut in bank base rates in the wake of the G7 talks at the weekend.



The FT-SE 100 index closed near its best of the day with a rise of 12.1 to 2,552.0, helped by the Dow Jones industrial average which rose 17 points in early trading on Wall Street before President Bush's State of the Union speech.

Government securities spent a better day, closing with gains of almost £½ at the longer end.

Pickwick, the video and audio reproduction group, surged 67p to 240p after agreeing to a £69 million bid from Carlton, the film and television services group.

The terms value Pickwick at 245p a share and there is a cash alternative of 220p. Pearson, which owns 20 per cent of Pickwick, has accepted the offer. **Carlton** fell 5p to 553p.

There was some good news at long last for the shareholders in **Fisons**, up 20p to 369p. The group is to resume production of Opticrom, its eye treatment, after an inspection of production methods by the Medicines Control Agency. Dealers say that this is an important step forward for the group, which had seen its share price fall sharply after last year's withdrawal of Opticrom and Imferon in America by the Food and Drug Administration.

Lonrho, the pan-African trading group, which upset the market last week by cutting its dividend, rallied 9p to 126p. The group is planning a series of presentations for analysts and fund managers to discuss the situation.

Meanwhile, investors continued to target other companies facing the possibility of a cut in dividend.

BET, the industrial services group, suffered a bad mauling, with the price down 17p at 159p after briefly touching 151p. The company's own broker, UBS Phillips & Drew, is believed to have reduced its pre-tax profit estimate for the current year to £110 million and is warning clients that a cut in the dividend may be on the cards.

The rest of the market has been bracing itself for a sharp fall in profits for sometime with estimates ranging up to £135 million compared with £217 million last time. UBS Phillips & Drew is also said to be warning of a possible cut in the 13.25p dividend.

Rank Organisation rallied 2p to 609p ahead of full-year figures tomorrow, expected to reveal a sharp downturn in pretax profits. A question mark hangs over the dividend.

But the water companies continued to attract support from the income funds because of their strong yields. **Northumbrian** rose 4p to 373p, **North West** 6p to 355p, **Severn Trent** 4p to 331p, **Southern** 4p to 329p, **South West** 2p to 331p, **Thames** 5p to 364p, **Wessex** 14p to 395p and **Yorkshire** 5p to 380p.

Northern Foods jumped 20p to 578p on learning that 94.1 per cent of its recent rights issue had been taken up. The rump of 3.3 million shares was placed jointly by Cazenove and Smith New Court at 568p. The proceeds from the rights were used to finance the acquisition of Express Dairy from Grand Metropolitan.

Williams Holdings, the acquisitive industrial conglomerate, which recently failed in its attempt to win control of Racal Electronics, fell 11p to 323p after being criticised by one of the City's financial watchdogs.

MICHAEL CLARK

Taylor Woodrow, the construction group, fell 5p to 128p after profit downgradings by Charterhouse Tilney and Hoare Govett. TW is expected, at best, only to break even for last year after further provisions for the Channel tunnel and its luxury housing project in Kensington. Hoare had originally forecast pre-tax profits of £20 million.

RECENT ISSUES

BTR Warrants 1995/96	69	+1
Baillie Gifford Japan Wts	108	+3
Bristol Water Non-Voting £1	425	..
British Telecom New (335)	119	+2
Burn Stewart Dist 10p (140)	147	...
Butte Mining Warrants	2	...
Capital Industries 1p	63	...
Eurotunnel SA 1991 Wts	293	+10
Fleming Japanese Warrants	30	+2
Hong Kong Zero Div Pf	25½	..
Latin Amer Inc & Ap (£10¼)	£10¼	...
Lowe (R) Warrants	3	...
Mulitrust Warrants	6	..
River & Merc Tst Inc 12½p	103	..
-do- Stppd Prf 12½p	118½	+1
Seafield Resources (60)	54	
Simpsons of Cornhill 5p (50)	30	...
Wills Group Warrants	5½	+¼

RIGHTS ISSUES

Airbreak Leisure 5p N/P (43)	13½	+2
BM Group 10p N/P (330)	56	..
Beales Hunter 20p N/P (220)	13	..
Hi-Tec Sports N/P (150)	24	...
Whessoe N/P (185)	71	..

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Guinness	543p (+10p)
RMC Group	584p (+10p)
Redland	482p (+13p)
Elec Data Process	384p (+10p)
Sage Group	392p (+14p)
Siebe	589p (+11p)
Smithkline	923p (+15p)
THORN EMI	825p (+10p)
Booker	433p (+9p)
W Morrison	290p (+10p)
Northern Foods	578p (+20p)
Assoc Nursing	148p (+42p)
Broken Hill	573p (+12p)
Bullough	150p (+10p)
Capita Group	287p (+10p)
Fisons	369p (+20p)
IMI	253p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Body Shop	348p (−14p)
ADT	395p (−15p)
BET Ord	159p (−17p)

Closing Prices..Page 21

Results offer hope of early return to profit

Marine Midland reduces losses

FROM LULU YU IN HONG KONG

REDUCED losses at Marine Midland Banks have raised hopes that the troubled American offshoot of HSBC Holdings could return to profitability as early as this year.

The New York state regional bank group yesterday posted a smaller than expected net loss of $189.9 million for the year to end-December, compared with a loss of $295.6 million in the previous year.

The net loss for the fourth quarter was $23.8 million, down from $164.3 million for the same period in 1990.

The group has been plagued by poor performance of property and commercial loans in the north-eastern region and bad loans to less developed countries (LDCs).

John Bond, the president and chief executive seconded from the parent Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation last year, gave a positive review of the year's results and promised substantial improvement for this year. He said: "We are beginning to see the results of the changes we have been making to put Marine back on course for the future.

"Despite a difficult economic environment and continuing real estate problems, we see some light at the end of the tunnel and we expect a considerable improvement in 1992."

Mr Bond said the group had eliminated its LDC exposure, and was in a strong capital position with good liquidity. The Tier 1 capital ratio at the year end improved to 7.66 per cent from 5.84 per cent at the end of 1990.

Marine was one of three subsidiaries contributing losses to HSBC, the holding company for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The others were Hongkong Bank of Australia and James Capel, its British stockbroking arm.

Analysts are predicting that there will be a significant turnround this year after Hongkong Bank shocked them with a 35 per cent plunge in net profits to HK$3.096 billion (£222.4 million) for 1990.

Forecasts range between 25 per cent and 50 per cent profit growth for the full year, with the bank's losses reduced in America and Australia, and James Capel returning to profit.

Keith Wu, an analyst at Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, who is forecasting a 35 per cent growth in 1991 net profits to HK$4.1 billion for HSBC, said: "We expect to see a turnround for the bank because of the substantial provisions they made last year." He added: "The only depressing factor is the Hongkong Bank of Australia."

OS New Large Scale Agents Network Required By Ordnance Survey

Ordnance Survey is reorganising its sales and distribution network for large scale graphics products (1:1250, 1:2500 and 1:10 000 scale maps) throughout Great Britain to meet the demand for customised maps through the new Superplan service. The new network will be operational with effect from 1 October 1992.

Any organisation or business which feels it may be suitable to provide a national or regional service is invited to register interest by applying for a prospectus and application form, enclosing a short description of the organisation and any existing experience in dealing with mapping. A retail presence will be essential.

Interested parties must write to:
Large Scales Products Manager
C 466
Ordnance Survey
Romsey Road
Maybush
SOUTHAMPTON SO9 4DH

Closing date for receipt of registrations is Monday 10 February.

Any organisation or business replying to this announcement by the closing date and all existing Ordnance Survey Large Scale Agents will be sent a detailed prospectus and application form. A fuller business case will be required with any subsequent formal application. A network of Agents will then be selected from applications received.

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COMMENT

Steps to a truer and fairer view

Nigel Rudd, the accountant who chairs Williams Holdings, could tell any other company chairman who cares to listen that accounting is not what it was. Mr Rudd disagreed with an accounting standard that said exceptional profits must be included in pre-tax profits and formal earnings calculations, even though that would usually have benefited Williams profits. So, with full disclosure, Williams failed to use it. Yesterday, the review panel that enforces standards under the new regime of the Financial Reporting Council told the world Mr Rudd was wrong. Williams shares initially fell by 6 per cent.

The days of almost infinite choice are over and accounting standards are to be obeyed. No wonder the likes of Reed International and Ranks Hovis McDougall, whose balance sheets depend for respectability on acquired brand names, are anxious to influence deliberations of the Accounting Standards Board on new rules for valuing goodwill and other intangibles in advance. At Grand Metropolitan, for instance, the balance sheet value of brands bought since 1985 accounts for £2.3 billion of shareholders' funds of £3.4 billion and gearing would look horrendous without them.

In David Tweedie, the ASB chairman, finance directors have an ally in the search for more meaningful balance sheets, but the content of a new standard is no foregone conclusion. Only accounting diehards could deny that the name Guinness, for instance, has enormous intrinsic value as demonstrated by licensing agreements. But how far can this principle be stretched before it breaks? What might be the intangible balance sheet worth of a firm of money brokers or advertising agents, most of whose goodwill and expertise could eventually walk out of the door? Arthur Andersen has demonstrated that consistent measures of valuing intangibles are available, even though subjectivity remains. Before the battle for brand names is won, it will be necessary to devise a standard that can apply across the whole spectrum of acquired goodwill without collapsing under its own absurdity.

Hanson recants

To judge by the self-serving guff that blemishes many an annual report, the hardest thing in the world for most captains of industry to admit is that they were wrong. Lord Hanson's admirers would expect something better. It was apparent long ago that the foray into ICI was misjudged and it was a satisfactory end to the episode that Lord Hanson frankly admitted as much.

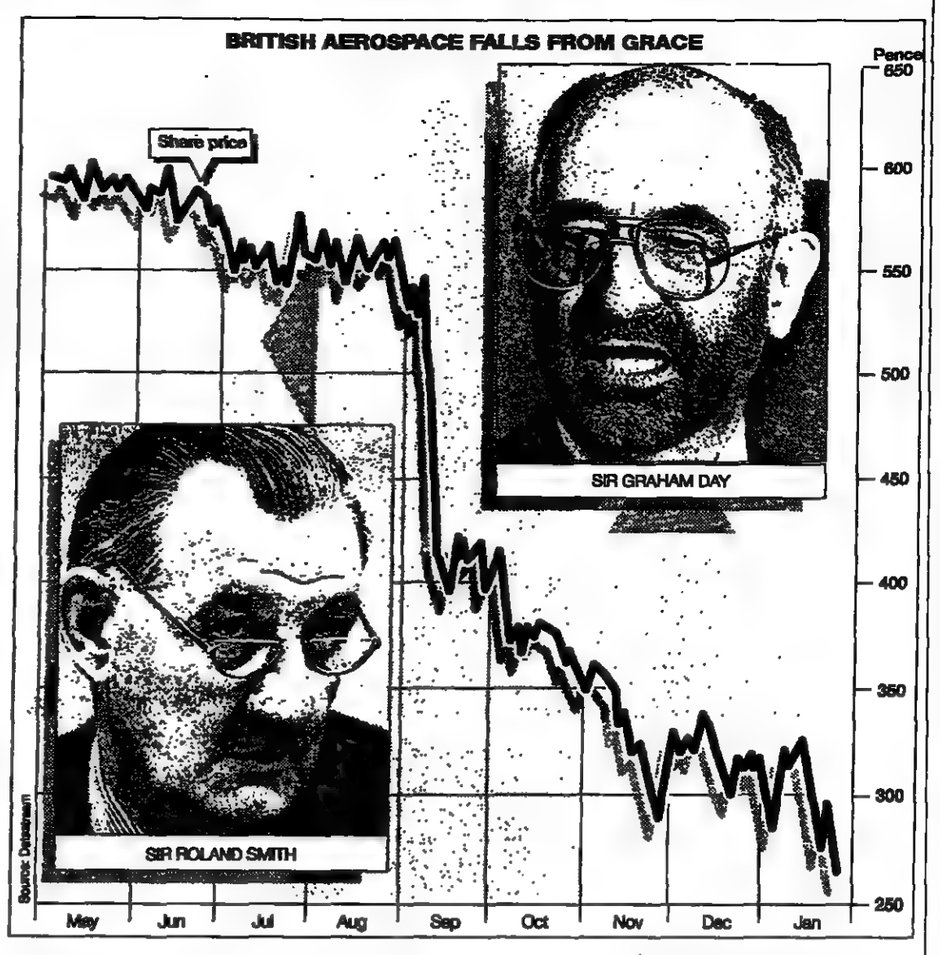
For Lords Hanson and White, two men who have scarcely put a foot wrong in building up one of Britain's most successful post-war businesses, the ICI affair was completely out of character, both in conception of the strategy and the likely public reaction to it.

Why they might have thought that ICI's board would see any business merit in a link with Hanson last year, when a similar secret approach made a year earlier was firmly rebuffed, remains a mystery. Why they should be surprised that ICI reacted as if a hostile takeover was in the offing when Hanson refused, until yesterday, to deny the possibility publicly is also hard to answer.

Having admitted their error, Lords Hanson and White will hopefully return to what they do best, with splendidly timed and sensible moves such as the Beazer takeover and maybe, if the market is reading the tealeaves correctly, an attempt to bring the temporarily distracted Allied Lyons under its wing.

Takeover clouds gather down the route for BAe

Problems of leadership, strategy and recession are combining to make British Aerospace vulnerable to attack. William Kay reports



Last week's crash of the Airbus A320 airliner in France's Vosges mountains was very nearly the last straw for Sir Graham Day, the normally unflappable but strictly stopgap chairman of British Aerospace, the civil and military aircraft manufacturer and owner of the Rover car business. Only the previous day, Sir Graham had had to confirm that Dudley Eustace, BAe's finance director, was leaving "by mutual agreement" after the forthcoming annual meeting.

The day before that, the weekend press had been full of the revelation that the company was facing an £80 million indemnity to make up for the fall in market value of properties that BAe injected into a joint venture with Asda, the supermarket chain.

These bad-news items followed a corporate explosion last September when BAe ushered in word of a 41 per cent fall in half-year profits with a breathtaking £430 million rights issue. That outbreak of foot-in-mouth disease cost Professor Sir Roland Smith his chairmanship and accelerated the quiet departure of institutions from the share register. Of those remaining, the Prudential has halved its stake to just over 2 per cent, worth £25 million.

Shareholder loyalty will be tested again next month, when Sir Graham is expected to reveal a pre-tax loss of £85 million, due to exceptional reorganisation and redundancy costs of £250 million. That will force the board to debate whether they can hold the dividend. The likely impact on the share price, still hovering around its 1991-2 low, may spark an opportunistic takeover bid.

The timing, coupled with BAe's roles as a leading supplier to the defence ministry, Britain's biggest manufacturing exporter and its only remaining large-scale car producer, could panic the government into sealing the company's fate before it blows up into a general election issue. BAe employs more than 125,000 people, with heavy concentrations in Warton, Lancashire; Cowley, in Oxford; and Chester.

As the government still holds a "golden share" capable of blocking any unwanted foreign takeover, the favourite rescuer is GEC. Last year Lord Weinstock, GEC's managing director and guiding light, held lengthy discussions with Sir Roland. The talks came to an end only in September, when BAe's financial problems became too much even for the wily professor to disguise. But insiders recognised at the time that that was not the end of the story. A Weinstock adviser was memorably quoted as saying of his master: "He is spinning his web. He is sitting in the middle of it and waiting."

The time to strike may come soon. Meanwhile the BAe share price is being dragged down by a series of worries:

☐ Management. Although Sir Graham said it could take a year to find a suitable long-term replacement for Sir Roland, investors are becoming uneasy that no progress appears to have been made after three months. Sir Graham has taken temporary leave of absence from the boards of Laird Group, MAI and Thorn EMI, but he is still chairman of Cadbury Schweppes and PowerGen. Institutions believe BAe's problems deserves the full-time attention of a heavyweight chairman.

However, those with the pedigree also have the nous to realise that this is a bad time to step in. And when someone does, he will want to throw all the bad news into his first set of results. That in itself is deterring potential investors.

Then there is Richard Evans, the chief executive. Critics dismiss him as little more than a salesman, and whisper that a new chairman would demand his head on a salver. It is notable that Evans has been bolstered by George Simpson, as deputy chief executive, who is credited with transforming Rover.

☐ Contracts. Mr Evans's survival may depend on his ability to talk the Saudis into extending the Al Yamamah arms contract from £2 billion a year to possibly £3 billion. BAe's supporters point out that the contract will continue, come what may. The current negotiations are about the extra £1 billion and in what mixture of cash and oil the bill will be paid.

The Al Yamamah contract is bound up in the intricacies of Arab bargaining; it also serves to obscure the huge shift in BAe's defence revenue from Nato to the Middle and Far East — neither of which is quite such a reliable payer.

Civil aircraft orders have been hit by the Gulf war and the recession. In that context, the French A320 crash did nothing to help sales of the airliner, which had already fallen from 404 to 101 last year. The 87 deaths in that crash follow the 92 who died in an Indian A320 nearly two years ago. Although pilot error caused that disaster and may be at the root of the French crash, there have been persistent criticisms of the Airbus's computer systems. A dangerous credibility gap is opening up.

While the market for corporate jets, such as BAE's 125, has been depressed, sales to commuter airlines of the BAe 146, the ATP and the Jetstream, the group's own products, have been even worse. The future may lie in joint deals like the one being negotiated with Hindustan Aeronautics of Bangalore.

☐ Strategy. Where does BAe go from here? As they make "big ticket" items, the company's main aircraft and car divisions will be among the last sectors to recover from recession. The Asda imbroglio illustrates the troubles of the property sector. Mr Eustace's departure raises fears of another cash-raising exercise.

Not surprisingly, "a shambles" was one of the milder phrases used by fund managers to describe BAe's present plight. They are not happy.

Much hangs on Sir Graham's ability to clear the decks for his successor. Warburg Securities echoes the views of Hoare Govett and Kleinwort Benson, BAe's joint brokers, that 1992 will see a return to profits of about £200 million pretax. All departments are being tightened up, stocks reduced, and the rights issue will cut interest charges.

That should be enough to warrant maintaining the dividend. If not, the institutions may lumber into action: as it is, we can take it that BAe will make intensive efforts to woo them with presentations after the 1991 results are unveiled.

Nevertheless, it is hard to banish the suspicion that this is too good an opportunity for as seasoned a Whitehall campaigner as Lord Weinstock to miss.

A long wait for unitary EC trade mark

At the end of this year, the European Community will start a single market in goods and services. That cries out for a single Community-wide system for the protection of trade marks on those goods and services. Work started on proposals for a single European Trade Mark in 1964 but the prospect of realising this seems almost as far away as ever.

A directive to harmonise member states' national trade mark laws was passed in 1988 and must be implemented by each state by the end of 1992. However, harmonisation is an imperfect instrument and can never create a single trade mark having effect throughout the Community.

A draft regulation to establish just such a unitary trade mark under Article 235 of the Treaty of Rome was first published in 1980. Member states are at last understood to be not far from agreement on its final form. After 12 years, however, it still seems a long way from being adopted by the Council of Ministers.

Member states are deadlocked on the political issues of where a Community Trade Mark office should be and what language it should use. The questions have appeared from time to time on agendas of ministerial meetings, but not high on them, and ministers seem reluctant even to try to reach any conclusion.

If we could place the office where it would best serve those who would use it, London would be the right choice. Be that as it may, what is especially important is the need to provide, somewhere, for those who do business in the community, the protection of a single trade mark valid throughout.

Unless this happens soon, there is likely to be competition from the growth of international trade mark registration under the Madrid Arrangement. That system, established a century ago, is already used by 30 countries, including eight EC member states, though not Britain or America. It enables businesses in those countries to obtain trade mark registrations in many of the others with one application.

In 1989, the four remaining EC states signed a protocol to the Madrid Arrangement. When they have ratified it — as the British government promises to do when the parliamentary timetable permits — firms can use the system to obtain national protection in all EC member states, lessening the demand for a single Community system if one eventually becomes available.

Yet a bundle of national registrations is no substitute for the unitary Community Trade Mark. It is essential that the opportunity to establish that is taken now, before it is lost altogether. During the forthcoming British presidency of the Community, the government must do everything possible to ensure that the questions of language and location of the office are speedily resolved, so that the Community Trade Mark can at last become a reality.

CHRISTOPHER MORCOM, QC

The author is a practising barrister.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Expansive mind of Frame

SIR Alistair Frame, cigar-chomping chairman of Wellcome, and chairman-in-waiting of British Steel, has added yet another title to his name. However, it is not one that is likely to start share prices fluctuating. Sir Alistair, who takes on a part-time role at British Steel when Sir Robert Scholey retires in July, has taken on the chairmanship of the South Africa Club, an organisation in London for expatriates and investors. His first official duty was to host a dinner at the Savoy on Monday evening for Douglas Hurd, the globe-trotting foreign secretary, who used the occasion to reaffirm Britain's support for South Africa. "A thousand new jobs are needed a day," he told the 300 guests. "Only a South African economy beginning to move fast now can provide resources to meet these expectations." Perhaps Sir Alistair, past chairman of RTZ, the international mining and minerals group, has some iron-ore contracts in mind.

TIMELY reminder to clients in a framed notice in a City of London firm of solicitors: "Not catering to a rich uncle could cost you an arm and a legacy."

Atkinson's ascent

RICHARD Atkinson liked the product so much he bought the company that made it. Well, not quite, but few executives can match Atkinson's rise through the ranks. Atkinson, managing director of Eurocamp, the self-drive holiday company, joined as a courier in 1975, straight out of university, and went on to participate in the management buyout of the company from Next for £32 million in 1988. Last year, he brought the company to the stock market, when it was valued at £55 million. "I was never promoted — the company just grew underneath me," says Atkinson, who, announcing the company's financial results yesterday, was quick off the mark when asked to find a tent in which to pose for a photograph. He borrowed one from a nearby branch of Blacks Leisure.

"When did you first notice this sharp loss of business confidence?"

Timely delay

BRITISH Rail may find itself under even greater pressure to compensate passengers who face delays, after a timely incident this week. Brian Hilton, one of the key drafters of the Financial Services Act and head of the unit that is working on the citizen's charter, including plans for BR compensation, arrived at Charing Cross on Monday evening after a tiring day relaunching the charter, only to discover his train had been cancelled. Unperturbed, he caught one bound for Tonbridge from where he could travel on to his home in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. However, with Tonbridge in sight, the train stopped for 20 minutes, giving Hilton plenty of time to plot his revenge ...

THE general manager of the Institute of London Underwriters, a body that represents marine underwriters - and has an annual report full of photographs of half-submerged or burnt-out ships — is a Mr Funnell. The general secretary is a Mr De'Ath.

Alphabet and soup

ELECTRA, the venture capital house that is backing the buyout of Mirror Group Newspapers, has come up with an imaginative way of beating the post-Christmas blues. It is to host a series of dinners for luminaries from industry and the City at its offices in Kingsway, London, with guests invited according to the first letter of their surname. The subjects for discussion are to be chosen in alphabetical order. So who better to discuss "A is for Advertising", the first topic, than Robert Louis-Dreyfus, chief executive of Saatchi & Saatchi, and "B is for Banking" than Sir David Walker, eloquent chairman of the Securities and Investments Board. Electra intends to continue its "Alpha-Beta" dinners for the next 24 months, right through to the end of the alphabet. All together now: "Z is for ..."

JON ASHWORTH

BUSINESS LETTERS

Index-linked gilts are not the way

From Mr H.R. Wynne-Griffith

Sir, Dryden Gilling-Smith tries to persuade us (Friday January 24) that a pension fund invested in index-linked gilts is the only way for employers to ensure that pensions for employees maintain their purchasing power whilst they are in payment. Over the last ten years, pension funds have produced returns substantially in excess of the rate of inflation because they chose not to invest in index-linked gilts. Had they been so invested then, the surpluses which have been applied to enhance and improve and protect pensions, would not have arisen. Moreover, it is incautious to follow the policy suggested by Mr Gilling-Smith as it requires an investment commitment not only as regards the existing fund, but also as regards future contributions. If those contributions cannot be invested in an appropriate manner to match the corresponding liabilities because the price of index-linked gilts moves wrongly or, because there is an insufficient supply of adequately dated ones then, the commitment of the existing funds to such an investment policy would have been of no avail and would have to be undone.

Index-linked might well have their place in providing a medium of investment for insurance companies who wish to offer *individual* annuities of this type but, their performance is so poor that they are unattractive as a substantial investment for conventional pension funds.

If this were not the case then the clamour of demand for such gilts would be so great that the Treasury would be seduced into offering yet more. As a medium of funding government debt, they transfer a substantial burden onto the the shoulders of future generations. The government is already burdening those generations with enough debt in state pension promises. They should not be tempted to increase that burden.

The answer is for the government to get rid of inflation and to discourage attitudes of surrender to it as proposed by Mr Gilling-Smith.

Yours faithfully
H.R. WYNNE-GRIFFITH
11 Tufton Street, SW1

From Mr G.F.N. Knox

Sir, The article (January 24) on index-linked gilts was interesting but misleading. An invesment in 2½ per cent of 2020 which was the longest dated index-linked stock available in 1986 would have only shown appreciation of 28 per cent or far less than the 41 per cent of the retail price index.

The main reason for the better performance of the index-linked index is that short dated stocks have been much better because when they have less than say five years to run they are the only low coupon capital appreciation stocks available and there is consequently a huge extra demand. Gilt-edged indices are useless over a long period because of the different rates of appreciation to redemption. From now on index-linked may be a good investment but this is at least partly because they have been so poor in the past.

Yours faithfully,
G.F.N. KNOX,
Maltings Chase,
Nayland,
Colchester, Essex.

Deprived of banking details

From Mr A. Fisher

Sir, Mr Rolt's letter (January 22) on bank charges highlights the inadequacy of those terse two lines labelled INTEREST and CHARGES on each quarter's statement, informing the customer of major debit charges, often running into many hundreds of pounds or more.

Banks should supply itemised invoices, just like restaurants, hotels or British Telecom. For each item of service, the invoice should show the numbers of cheques, standing orders, direct debits, deposits and arrangement fees, multiplied by their unit charge; and similarly for interest charges, the number of days overdrawn at an average balance, multiplied by the daily interest rate (and APR equivalent), for each period that interest rates remained the same.

Prices give out important signals to suppliers and customers alike, so that each can adjust their behaviour to maximum advantage. Even the citizens of Yeltsin's Russia are now discovering the raw power of market prices.

How astonishing that British banks still fail to provide itemised invoices, thus depriving their customers of the invigorating effects of detailed price information!

Yours sincerely,
ADRIAN FISHER,
Chief Executive,
Minotaur Maze Designs,
7 Holly Bush Lane,
Harpenden,
Hertfordshire.

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

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FITTED BATHROOMS 252629
FITTED BEDROOMS 373642
FITTED KITCHENS 289007
CURTAINS & BLINDS 387392
FITTED CARPETS 282974
WINDOWS & DOORS 378241
CONSERVATORIES 220500

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES
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INVESTMENT COUNSELLING 269483
COMMERCIAL/GENERAL INSURANCE 269482
PENSION & LIFE ASSURANCE 289008

Services may not yet be available in all areas.
See Regional Press for more details.
Services available in the U.K. including Northern Ireland.
Mercury users – please select a B.T. line to make the call.
National Connect Plc, 81 Warwick Street, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV32 4RR. Tel: 0926 888833

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Dividend Gth 47.02 50.02 +0.04 6.00
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High Inc Equity 126.50 134.50† +0.20 6.32
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ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580
30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801
Amer Inc Gth 31.37 33.22 +0.18 2.39
European 68.99 73.20 +0.34 0.31
European Inc 72.50 76.49 +0.26 1.60
Exempt 792.60 818.90† +1.40 4.98
Extra Inc 36.16 39.42† +0.35 6.28
F East Emerg Ec 52.49 56.17 -0.26 1.14

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366
High Inc 320.30 341.10 -0.20 6.03
Equity Inc 179.50 191.10† +0.70 5.37
High Yield 195.80 208.50 +0.60 5.56
Balanced 548.90 584.50† +1.70 3.58
American Inc 34.65 36.90† -0.34 3.96
Wld Asset Val 31.14 33.16 -0.16 1.51
Japan 128.20 135.60† -1.40 0.01
Secs of Am 345.30 366.10 -0.70 0.26

BL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
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1992 Euro Sp Op 62.48 66.81 +0.27 0.60
International Inc 68.73 73.11† -0.12 7.36
N American Gth 52.39 56.02 +0.22 0.20
Pacific Growth 68.50 73.25 +0.25 0.82
UK Growth Acc 79.54 85.06 +0.32 2.37
UK Growth Dis 69.80 74.64 +0.28 2.72
UK Income 57.23 61.20 +0.15 6.02

BARCLAYS UNICORN
Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544
Capital 91.70 98.34 +0.66 3.64
Euro Gth Inc 96.89 102.80 +0.40 1.78
Extra Inc 90.16 96.43 +0.61 7.06
General 200.70 214.60 +1.30 4.21
Gilt Fxd Inc 53.60 55.51 -0.01 10.05
Income 398.90 426.60† +1.70 6.81

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American Gth 72.85 77.13† -0.35 0.30
Amer Smllr Cos 84.58 90.04 -0.47 ...
Australia 58.77 63.36 +0.84 2.10
Convertibles 45.46 48.61† +0.01 8.40
Eastern 138.00 148.40 +0.80 1.80
Equity Income 66.23 70.45 +0.41 7.40
European Gth 186.00 197.60 +0.30 2.20
Euro Smllr Cos 144.60 154.20 +0.60 1.40
Exempt 68.38 70.61† ... 4.00
German Growth 47.48 50.72 -0.17 1.10
Global Growth 85.43 91.37 +0.05 1.50
Japan Growth 143.40 153.50 +0.80 ...
Japan Sunrise 116.90 124.60 -0.80 ...
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-do- Acc 170.30 177.50 -0.10 3.60
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UK Smaller Cos 69.68 74.52 +0.39 2.20
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-do- Inc 78.36 83.81 +0.37 3.00
Global Bond 23.29 24.91 -0.01 6.45
High Yield Acc 40.74 43.57 -0.07 4.90
-do- Inc 31.24 33.42† -0.05 4.90
Income Gth Acc 57.06 61.02 -0.01 5.70
-do- Inc 39.62 42.38 -0.01 5.70
Service Co Acc 67.61 72.31 +0.30 2.28
-do- Inc 63.66 68.09 +0.18 2.28
Amer Gth Acc 39.14 41.86 +0.14 0.63
-do- Inc 38.41 41.08 +0.14 0.63
Euro Gth Acc 25.69 27.47 -0.02 1.74
-do- Inc 24.99 26.73 -0.02 1.74
Mngd P folio 26.16 27.97 +0.10 0.22

BROWN SHIPLEY
9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144
Financial 93.18 99.24 +0.28 4.76
Smaller Cos Acc 189.80 202.20 +1.30 1.92
Smaller Cos Inc 112.80 120.10 +0.76 1.92
High Inc 94.98 100.97 +0.32 7.17
Income 92.01 97.36 +0.38 5.52
Mngd P folio Inc 79.18 84.33 +0.30 2.47
-do- Acc 146.10 155.60 +0.50 ...
North American 83.92 91.97† -0.50 0.24
Orient 87.44 94.08 +0.08 ...
Recovery 29.22 31.12 +0.06 1.70
German 35.72 38.29 +0.41 0.10
Intl Recov 29.71 31.64 ... 0.25
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Conv General 16.04 17.72† +0.14 10.74

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT
Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474
Fellowship Tst 50.38 53.40 +0.25 3.03
-do- Acc 54.98 58.28 +0.29 3.03
Income Fund 5 165.10 175.70 +0.10 6.07
-do- Acc 357.40 380.30 +0.20 6.07
Inv Portfolio 34.61 36.52 +0.36 3.01
-do- Acc 59.74 61.83 +0.39 3.01
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PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH. 061 837 5060
Environ 107.40 114.20† +0.90 2.25
UK Growth 119.00 126.60 +0.90 2.60
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CANNON FUND MANAGERS
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Growth 39.40 42.14† +0.43 3.78
Income 44.51 47.61† +0.36 6.42
Far East 37.41 40.01 -0.02 0.78
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Global 66.54 71.17 +0.03 0.90
European 86.03 80.89 +0.83 2.46
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-do- Acc 60.20 63.88 +0.01 1.55
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-do- Acc 235.50 250.60 +0.30 2.29
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-do- Acc 516.90 552.90 +1.60 2.77

Income Growth 305.90 325.50† +3.20 5.68
-do- Acc 389.00 413.90 +4.20 5.68
Master Portfolio 8389.0 8814.0† +27.00 2.89
-do- Acc 9413.0 9800.0 +30.00 2.89
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-do- Acc 80.06 85.18 +0.06 2.80
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European Index 115.30 123.00 +0.10 2.02
Euro Gth 74.15 79.13† +0.23 1.88
Far East Growth 65.63 70.04† +0.02 0.95
Global Bond 19.94 21.27† -0.05 6.47
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Income 417.20 445.20 +1.30 5.89
Intl Growth 61.86 66.01 -0.12 1.34
Japan Growth 192.30 205.20 -0.70 ...
Japan Smllr Cos 26.81 28.61 -0.23 ...
Japan Index 57.62 61.49 -0.08 0.36
Nth American 326.90 348.80 -1.30 1.56
S pore Mly Gth 35.06 37.41 -0.17 ...
Tiger Index 99.42 106.10 -0.20 1.14
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European P folio 61.44 65.43 +0.44 1.21
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Pacific P folio 67.46 72.54 +0.80 2.79
Cazenove P folio 57.68 61.70 +0.37 3.29
UK Income Gth 55.04 59.19 +0.38 7.13

CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND
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Investment Fd 516.50 520.50 ... 5.65
Fixed Int 140.20 140.85 ... 10.29
Deposit 10.45 ... 10.87 ...

CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND
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Income 501.17 507.34 ... 5.83
-do- Acc 1851.4 1872.1 ... ...
Deposit 10.45 ... 10.87 ...
Fxd Int Inc 113.90 114.13 ... 10.16
-do- Acc 153.20 153.47 ... ...

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Friars Hse Cap 202.00 214.10† +1.10 2.85

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European Gth 77.92 82.89 +0.79 0.89
Far East Gth 70.36 74.85 -0.51 0.51
Japan Gth Acc 31.89 33.93 -0.34 ...
Managed 53.26 56.66 +0.09 3.76
-do- Acc 62.30 66.28 +0.11 0.51
Mthly Inc Plus 41.10 43.72 +1.39 9.84
Smaller Cos 28.02 29.81 +0.12 2.43
-do- Acc 30.05 31.97 +0.13 2.43
UK General 59.19 62.97† +0.33 3.16
-do- Acc 69.01 73.41 +0.39 3.16
Wrldde Bd 50.97 54.22 -0.46 5.00
-do- Acc 61.02 64.92 -0.55 5.00
Wrlde Sp Sits 43.13 46.13† -0.02 0.56
-do- Acc 44.76 47.87 -0.02 4.97
Quilter General 105.01 111.71 +0.53 1.72
-do- Acc 112.85 120.05 +0.36 1.72
Quilter Income 77.98 82.96† +0.06 4.61
-do- Acc 90.90 96.70 +0.05 4.61
Quilter Intl 102.24 108.77 -0.51 ...
-do- Acc 103.18 109.77 -0.52 ...
Quilter UK Spec 67.84 72.17 +0.31 3.34
-do- Acc 87.57 93.16 +0.40 3.34
CU Prestige Fund Management
Fin Property 84.06 88.05 +0.25 3.01
Fixed Conv 34.19 36.37 +0.07 8.97
-do- Acc 81.95 87.18 +0.18 8.97
Equity Inc 124.28 132.21 +0.31 5.40
-do- Acc 369.50 393.00 +0.91 5.40
High Yield 97.84 104.09† +0.38 6.92
-do- Acc 345.30 367.55 +1.33 6.92
Preference 38.82 41.30† +0.07 9.65
-do- Acc 183.07 194.76 +0.35 9.65
PPT Europe 129.50 136.90 +1.01 0.83
PPT Global Bnd 63.55 67.61 -0.51 4.95
PPT Gold Com 43.24 46.00 -0.03 ...
PPT Thai 38.00 40.43 +0.06 0.44
PPT Hong Kong 56.06 59.64 -0.31 1.54
PPT Japan 90.34 96.11 -1.12 ...
PPT N Amer 115.09 122.44 -0.74 0.02
PPT S'pore Mly 72.60 77.23 -1.16 ...
PPT UK 99.19 105.52 +0.54 2.03
PPT Cash 85.13 85.13 +0.01 9.93

EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh 0345 090 526
American 87.41 92.87 -0.48 ...
Capital 133.80 142.20 +0.60 1.76
Convertibles 21.36 22.70† -0.16 8.81
Eurofund 33.68 35.60† +0.01 1.12
Mngd Exempt 143.30 149.40 +0.80 2.51
Growth Inc 191.70 203.70 +0.10 3.77
High Dist 131.00 139.20 -0.40 8.26
International 267.50 284.10† ... 1.76
Intl Income 61.56 65.72 -0.07 5.48
Pacific 37.02 39.33 +0.01 1.02
Smllr Jap Cos 55.02 58.46† -0.63 ...
Tokyo 156.10 165.30 -0.10 ...
Japan Exempt 103.80 106.70 +0.90 0.47
Sm Jap Exempt 474.90 488.00 ... 0.10

EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555
Oriental Op Acc 59.48 63.28 +0.28 1.34
Japanese Acc 48.43 51.82 -0.02 ...
UK Balncd Inc 104.40 111.10† +0.50 3.33
-do- Acc 119.30 126.90† +0.59 3.33
UK Growth Acc 175.00 186.20 +0.60 2.82
UK High Inc 109.50 116.50 +0.40 8.34
-do- Acc 121.50 129.30 +0.90 8.34
N America Acc 81.56 86.77 +0.09 0.11
European Acc 112.60 119.80 +0.60 1.33
UK Pref F/I Inc 55.63 59.01† -0.03 9.08
-do- Acc 83.14 88.19† -0.05 9.08
Intl Sp Sits Acc 41.84 44.51 +0.31 0.85
Environmtl Opp 59.81 63.63 +0.40 2.28

ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261
Endurance 144.20 153.40 ... 1.97

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 7QW. 0296 431480
Pelican 96.63 101.72 +0.63 5.30
High Income 97.75 102.89 +0.53 6.89
Tst of Inv Tsts 110.41 116.22 +0.42 3.18
Special Sits 87.50 92.11 +0.47 4.44
North American 83.64 88.04 -1.37 0.75
Far Eastern 166.42 175.18 -0.87 1.16
Intl Growth 72.50 76.32 -0.21 2.29
European 57.31 60.33 -0.01 1.87
Smaller Cos 55.86 58.80 -0.03 3.36

EQUITY & LAW
St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1GD 0203 553231
UK Growth Acc 260.70 277.40 +0.60 4.04
-do- Inc 193.20 205.60 +0.40 4.04
Higher Inc Acc 432.00 459.60 -0.80 5.99
-do- Inc 279.60 297.50 -0.50 5.99
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc 145.90 153.60 ... 8.48
-do- Inc 83.98 88.40 -0.03 8.48
Nth America 209.00 222.40 -1.10 ...
Far East 219.40 233.50 +0.50 0.42
Europe 197.80 210.50 -0.10 0.76
General Inc 358.50 381.40 +0.60 3.92
-do- Acc 378.20 402.40 +0.60 3.92
Brit Excel 53.37 56.78 ... 4.00
Brit Frdmls Inc 53.82 57.26 -0.11 6.46
Brit Frdmls Acc 65.07 69.23 -0.13 6.46
Global Opps 58.40 62.13 +0.10 0.30

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181
America 172.40 182.10 -1.00 ...
Cash Unit Tst 136.07 136.07† +0.02 10.39
European Inc 95.93 102.40 +0.50 ...

FOREIGN & COLONIAL
8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000
European Inc 81.21 85.98 +0.48 1.93
Far Eastern 108.70 115.90 -0.30 ...
Oseas Income 72.87 77.84† -0.03 3.08
UK Growth 68.45 73.21† +0.52 1.87
UK Income 86.68 92.71 +0.35 6.34
US Smaller Cos 149.50 159.90 -0.70 ...

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100
Am Smllr Co 343.90 372.40 -1.20 ...
-do- Acc 351.40 380.40 -1.30 ...
Capital 253.70 269.80 +1.20 2.94
-do- Acc 341.20 362.90 +1.60 2.94
Conti Smllr Cos 40.52 43.34 +0.02 0.03
-do- Acc 41.20 43.97 +0.02 0.03
Convertible 99.73 105.70† +0.20 7.13
-do- Acc 174.60 185.00† +0.40 7.13
European 87.92 93.74 -0.03 0.70
-do- Acc 90.32 96.30 -0.03 0.70
Extra Income 235.40 250.30† +0.20 5.87
-do- Acc 316.00 336.10† +0.30 5.87
Financial 67.40 71.69 +0.26 0.80
-do- Acc 69.74 74.18 +0.27 0.80
Health Fund Inc 117.80 126.90 -1.20 ...
-do- Acc 117.80 126.90 -1.20 ...
Income Tst 152.50 162.20 +0.10 5.24
-do- Acc 201.80 214.60 +0.10 5.24
Intl Growth 268.50 287.10 -1.80 ...
-do- Acc 298.20 318.80 -2.10 ...
Japan Gen 127.50 136.70 -0.40 ...
-do- Acc 128.80 138.00 -0.40 ...
Mngd P folio Inc 77.07 81.12 +0.06 2.14
-do- Acc 77.73 81.82 +0.06 2.14
Monthly Income 122.00 129.70† +0.10 5.65
-do- Acc 214.70 232.90† -0.70 0.85
Recovery 248.70 269.80† -0.80 0.85
-do- Acc 35.69 37.96 +0.08 3.56
Smaller Cos 39.50 42.01 +0.08 3.56
-do- Acc 64.08 66.08 +0.17 4.89
Gilt Gth Inc 69.59 71.77 +0.18 4.89
-do- Acc 59.41 61.26 +0.10 8.28
Gilt Inc Inc 69.90 72.08 +0.12 8.28
-do- Acc

FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 414141. Admin: 0722 411622
Equity Dist 282.93 300.99 +1.89 3.84
-do- Acc 555.30 590.75 +3.71 3.84
Euro Gth Dis 90.54 96.32 +0.26 0.63
-do- Acc 92.20 98.18 +0.30 0.63
Fixed Int Dist 118.81 125.67† +0.02 8.02
-do- Acc 188.35 199.23† +0.03 8.02
Intl Gth Dist 61.04 64.94† +0.07 0.63
-do- Acc 62.75 66.76† +0.06 0.63
Nth Amer Dist 140.80 149.79† +0.02 0.70
-do- Acc 151.33 160.99† +0.03 0.70
Pac Basin Dist 176.14 187.38† +0.19 0.24
-do- Acc 178.51 189.90† +0.19 0.24
Stewardship Dist 245.92 261.62 +0.93 2.73
-do- Acc 284.29 302.44 +1.08 2.73
Swd Inc Dist 31.82 35.13 +0.12 5.16
-do- Acc 60.86 64.74 +0.26 5.16
N Am Swd Dist 71.33 75.88† -0.25 0.23
-do- Acc 75.50 80.32† -0.26 0.23

GT UNIT MANAGERS
8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 2575. Dealing: 071 626 9431
Am Sp Sits 102.60 109.80 +0.60 ...
UK Capital Inc 135.60 145.10 +0.20 4.39
-do- Acc 223.00 238.50 +0.30 4.39
UK Spec Sits 53.77 57.51 +0.24 1.98
-do- Acc 96.05 102.70 +0.40 1.98
Income 182.40 194.40 +0.30 7.97
International 71.90 76.50 -0.22 1.30
US General 312.90 331.90 -0.30 0.60
Japan General 171.70 183.70 +0.30 ...
Far East General 322.80 343.80 -0.30 0.34
European 86.34 91.83 -0.30 1.13
Germany 57.53 61.07 +0.12 0.43
Intl Income 92.73 99.18 +0.13 3.87
W'wide Spec Sits 49.94 53.42 +0.20 0.12
Global Assets Inc 51.59 55.18 +0.20 2.82
Global Assets Acc [illegible] 2.82
Smllr Cos Div 41.71 44.61† +0.02 6.33

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336
UK Growth Trusts
British Growth 35.11 37.55 +0.08 2.58
Cash Trust* 119.00 119.00 +0.03 10.03
Prsct Inv Inc 89.43 94.83 +0.85 3.90
-do- Acc 182.04 199.22 +1.74 3.90
UK Smaller Cos 96.48 103.46 -0.13 2.13
Income Trusts
Preference Share 21.34 22.82† -0.36 11.52
High Inc 28.27 30.24 ... 6.08
Income 99.49 106.41 +0.44 5.20
Intl Fxd Inc 24.22 25.49† -0.02 7.06
International Trusts
Gold Intl 63.28 67.86 -0.56 0.31
Euroventures 16.73 17.85† +0.11 0.39
Frontier Markets 33.76 36.20 +0.05 0.77
Global Inc Gth 94.15 100.76 +0.57 3.11
UK Intl 89.96 96.21† -0.13 2.08
Overseas Trusts
American 93.68 99.03 -0.22 1.00
European 65.27 69.22 +0.12 1.39
Euro Sel Opps 74.74 84.84† +0.29 1.54
American Emerg 48.20 51.69† +0.11 0.02
Hong Kong 61.40 65.63 +0.53 1.73
Japan 146.42 155.94 +0.80 ...
Pacific Growth 92.77 99.49 +0.52 1.02

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526
Intl Growth 102.68 109.81 -0.04 0.66
American Gth 91.25 97.59 -0.02 0.26
European Gth 58.73 62.74 +0.04 0.67
German Horizon 42.12 44.98 +0.12 0.48
Japan Gth 59.10 63.21 -0.28 ...
Pacific Inc 96.00 102.67 +0.41 2.56
Pacific Strategy 66.57 71.19 -0.96 0.53
UK Prog Inc 63.71 68.13 +0.47 8.00
Gt British Cos 43.52 46.54 +0.20 2.76
UK Small Cos 38.48 41.16 ... [illegible]

GRE UNIT MANAGERS
36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 539 9668
Cash 121.90 121.90 ... 10.87
Gilt Fixed 112.50 119.30 -0.10 7.86
Growth Equity 251.90 269.10 +1.90 3.24

Guardhill 358.80 383.30 +1.70 3.14
Income Trust 86.83 92.70† +0.17 6.23
International 123.80 132.20 +0.30 2.96
Managed 99.69 106.50† -0.30 2.54
Nth American 191.30 204.30 +0.30 0.57
Pacific 283.10 302.40 +1.10 0.09
Prop Shares 180.40 192.70† +0.20 5.01
Small Cos 213.70 228.30 +0.30 2.96
European 311.50 332.70† +1.60 0.66

HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868
Global Adv Inc 29.33 31.10 +0.30 2.33
-do- Acc 30.00 31.80 +0.30 2.33

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390
Amer Equity Inc 53.55 56.82 +0.31 1.83
Amer Smllr Cos 50.02 53.58 -0.01 0.19
Canadian 89.68 95.40 +0.30 [illegible]
Equity Income 119.20 126.10 +0.40 1.07
European 57.45 61.12 +0.05 7.07
High Income 61.76 65.95 +0.70 ...
2nd Situation 91.76 97.36 -0.40 ...
Japan Far East 82.62 87.66 +0.06 0.18
North American 97.11 102.70 +0.50 0.56
Scandinavian 24.92 26.51† -0.11 2.00
Smaller Cos 34.11 36.29 -0.08 2.87
UK New Gentrn

HENDERSON
PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex. CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690370
Amer Smaller 67.64 72.76 -0.21 0.83
Asian Enterprise 81.64 87.43† +0.34 4.07
Australian 113.09 120.88 +2.27 1.25
European 292.65 309.85 +0.96 3.21
European Inc 59.63 63.06 +0.21 1.42
Euro Sml Co 102.64 109.18 +0.55 7.04
Extra Income 216.06 230.01† +0.24 1.71
Family of Funds 55.77 59.40† +0.28 8.62
Fixed Interest 50.99 55.31† +0.02 2.49
Global Resour 69.90 75.01 +0.54 6.91
High Inc 237.66 254.05† +[illegible] 5.25
Income Gth 191.97 204.43 +0.77 5.25
-do- Acc 461.27 491.24 +1.87 0.78
International 183.66 195.41 +0.26 ...
Japan Spc Sit 169.63 179.91 -0.65 ...
Japan 148.11 157.51† +0.28 0.40
N Amer 179.03 190.61† -0.43 0.25
Pacific Smlr Cos 120.06 128.61 -0.27 10.77
Pref Gilt 41.10 44.67† -0.01 5.01
Smaller Cos Div 140.59 153.23† +0.18 1.82
Special Sits 216.29 231.48 +2.47 1.32
-do- Acc 324.84 347.67 +3.72 3.66
Best of British 49.07 52.70 +0.27 0.45
Spirit of the East 40.33 43.06 +0.05 ...

HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS
NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355
British 75.04 80.35 +0.08 3.38
Capital 128.30 137.20† +0.40 2.97
Dollar 234.00 250.20 +0.30 0.66
European 164.10 175.50 +0.50 1.00
Far East 161.50 172.70† +0.80 1.10
Financial 476.90 510.00 +2.20 3.68
Gilt Fxd Int Inc 23.44 24.35† ... 9.66
High Yield 79.97 85.52 +0.33 6.95
Income 106.80 114.20 +0.10 4.61
Intl 168.70 180.40† +0.90 0.63
Japan Tech 53.57 57.29† +0.16 ...
Nat Resources 48.47 51.83 +0.54 1.22
Security 245.80 262.80 ... 3.21
Smaller Cos 87.09 93.14 +0.37 2.17
Special Sits 114.00 121.90 +0.10 3.53
US Smaller Cos 54.00 57.75 +0.16 ...

IBI FUND MANAGERS
36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673
Brit O seas 190.90 200.50 -0.10 1.04
Capital Gwth 91.92 96.78 +0.41 2.08
Inv Trusts 97.58 102.70 +1.30 0.96

INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS
11 Devonshire Square, London, EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434 Dealing 0800 010733
UK Specialist Trusts
Great Britain 41.89 44.96† +0.10 2.03
Smaller Cos 20.80 22.82 +0.02 2.59
Special Features 22.30 23.78 +0.13 [illegible]
-do- Acc 25.65 27.23 +0.16 2.64
General Funds
UK Growth 44.50 47.28 +0.35 3.25
Assets Earnings 60.78 64.57† +0.29 3.25
do Acc 69.70 74.08† +0.34 3.20
Managed Invest 70.17 74.98 +0.15 1.01
Report Children 64.70 69.12 +0.42 2.93
High Income Funds
Cashbox 51.80 51.80 ... 10.50
Extra Inc 64.35 69.83† +0.42 6.94
Gilt 25.40 26.79† -0.02 7.72
Income Gth 31.60 33.93 +0.16 5.07
MIMstar 70.46 72.23 +0.02 9.44
Preference 14.68 15.59 +0.01 10.48
UK Income 254.10 272.50 +0.90 4.93
Sector Specialist Funds
Commodity 35.07 37.26 +0.20 1.48
Fincl Sec 41.84 44.03† ... 3.04
Gold 36.56 38.42 +0.11 2.44
-do- Acc 36.35 38.65 +0.11 2.44
Intl Leisure 21.76 23.12† +0.07 0.35
Property Shares 51.78 55.01 +0.30 2.60
Exempt Funds
Exempt 114.50 120.90 +0.90 5.97
European Acc 93.46 98.97 +0.24 2.06
European Dis 90.95 96.31 +0.23 2.06
Overseas Growth Funds
American Gth 38.53 41.01 +0.16 1.04
European Perf 87.52 92.06 +0.24 1.64
-do- Acc 87.53 92.84 +0.34 1.64
Euro Small Cos 17.53 18.63 ... 1.51
French Growth 51.03 55.09 -0.24 1.98
-do- Acc 34.19 37.46 -0.25 1.98
Hong K/China 38.62 41.02† +0.32 2.72
Intl Growth 40.06 42.50 +0.14 1.42
Japan Perf 27.02 28.67 +0.02 ...
Accum Units 27.02 28.67 +0.02 ...
Japan Smllr Cos 25.84 27.38 -0.13 ...
Singapore Assets 56.61 61.43 +0.10 0.08
-do- Acc 56.96 61.81 +0.10 0.08
South East Asia 154.60 165.60 +0.60 1.23
US Smllr Cos 93.73 99.58 -0.02 ...
-do- Acc 94.72 100.60 ... ...
Overseas Income Funds
Global Inc 63.31 67.41† +0.13 3.71
Intl Bond 46.03 48.45 -0.03 6.93

KEY FUND MANAGERS
35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 236 5362
Equity General 56.85 60.48 +0.22 4.41
Gilt Fixed Int 67.26 71.18 -0.23 8.19
Higher Income 144.50 153.40† +0.30 7.25
Income 79.31 85.04 +0.14 6.41
International 72.45 77.58 +0.44 2.55
Smaller Cos 57.97 62.01 +0.19 3.33

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD
10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354
Income Trusts
Cash Acc* 64.04 64.36† +0.01 10.94
Extra Income 43.82 46.62† +0.02 6.09
Gilt Yield 110.00 116.00† ... 9.28
Global Income 157.90 168.00 +0.32 5.09
High Yield 102.90 109.50† +0.21 7.85
Smllr Cos Div 37.41 39.80 -1.88 7.46
Capital Growth Trusts
Amer Smllr Cos 71.68 76.26† -0.86 0.07
North American 57.52 61.18 -0.20 0.65
European 111.70 118.80† ... 1.00
Euro Special 71.65 76.22 +0.06 0.62

Fund of Inv Tsts 26.26 27.94 +0.14 2.58
General 238.60 253.80† +3.80 3.75
Intl Recovery 103.60 110.30 +0.70 1.92
Japan 311.00 330.90 -1.50 ...
Japanese Special 168.20 178.90 -1.80 ...
Master Acc 185.90 197.80 ... 2.16
Pacific 194.60 207.00 -0.40 0.04
Smaller Cos 82.93 88.22 +0.11 3.04
UK Equity Gth 27.63 29.39 +0.09 2.86

LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151
European 57.61 61.29† +0.21 1.48
Extra Income 20.40 21.70† +0.11 5.94
Far East 18.43 19.61 +0.02 0.48
Income Gwth 58.79 62.54 +0.54 3.92
Intl Growth 39.54 42.06 +0.10 1.54
Japan 44.90 47.77† -0.02 ...
Maximum Dist* 98.19 100.20† ... 10.00
N Amer Equity 30.25 32.18 +0.06 0.93
UK Equity 68.81 73.20 -0.40 3.87

LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 071 407 5966
Income Gth Inc 45.95 48.89† +0.12 5.00

LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395
Equity Dist 363.50 386.70 +0.70 3.72
Equity Acc 693.00 705.30 +1.20 3.72
Equity Income 75.81 80.65† +0.13 5.83
European 81.94 87.17 ... [illegible]
Far Eastern 121.40 129.10 +0.10 [illegible]
Fixed Interest 46.22 49.17† +0.02 6.60
Gilt 82.67 87.48 -0.04 ...
Global Growth 51.15 54.41 +0.11 1.18
Intl Bond 45.65 48.56 -0.25 5.52
Japanese 50.01 53.20 -0.11 ...
Overseas Equity 78.09 83.07† +0.11 0.71
Nat Resources 67.50 71.81 +0.52 1.10
North American 103.60 110.20† -0.20 1.00
UK Recovery 60.11 63.95 +0.34 3.28
UK Special Sits 87.92 93.53† +0.01 2.45
Worldwide 62.54 66.53 +0.08 3.83

LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313
Balanced 273.30 287.70 +0.80 3.65
-do- Acc 573.60 603.80 +1.70 3.65
Conti Euro Gth 41.24 43.42 +0.08 1.89
-do- Acc 43.09 45.36 +0.07 1.89
Energy Intl 52.35 55.70 +0.28 2.25
-do- Acc 62.83 66.85 +0.33 2.25
Extra Inc 200.60 211.20 +0.90 5.78
-do- Acc 467.50 492.20 +2.30 5.78
German Gth 88.43 93.09 +0.32 0.66
-do- Acc 92.18 97.04 +0.34 0.66
Income 385.80 406.20 +1.30 5.03
-do- Acc 941.00 990.60 +3.20 5.03
Intl Tech 194.10 204.40 -0.50 0.44
-do- Acc 207.50 218.50 -0.60 0.44
Japan Growth 73.63 78.34 -0.46 0.02
-do- Acc 73.89 78.61 -0.47 0.02
Master Trust 44.12 46.43 +0.09 3.22
-do- Acc 46.96 49.42 +0.10 3.22
N American Gen 155.50 165.50† -0.50 0.47
-do- Acc 179.30 190.80 -0.50 0.47
NAm Sm Co Rec 110.50 116.40 -0.60 0.01
-do- Acc 112.80 118.80 -0.60 0.01
Pacific Basin 151.50 161.20 +0.10 0.28
-do- Acc 158.70 168.90 +0.10 0.28
Small Cos Rec 256.60 270.20 +0.90 2.59
-do- Acc 322.90 339.90 +1.10 2.59
UK Growth 72.11 75.91† +0.31 3.40
-do- Acc 81.90 86.22 +0.34 3.40
Worldwide Gth 220.30 231.90 +0.30 0.97
-do- Acc 322.80 339.80 +0.40 0.97

LONDON & MANCHESTER
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673
General 66.41 71.28 +0.40 2.80
Income 50.84 54.33 +0.19 6.40
International 44.12 47.34 +0.12 1.70
American 46.01 49.37† -0.02 0.90
Japan 36.82 39.31 -0.04 ...
Tst of Inv Trusts 42.69 45.81 +0.37 2.40

M & G SECURITIES
Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 071 626 4588. Dealing: 0245 266266
American Gen 300.70 318.00† +0.10 0.71
-do- Acc 369.50 390.80 +0.20 0.71
American Rec 291.20 307.90 +0.90 0.67
-do- Acc 331.80 350.80 +1.00 0.67
Am Sm Co Acc 93.70 99.10 -0.30 ...
Australia Acc 124.90 133.60 +2.40 1.41
Capital 487.20 515.20 +1.90 4.67
-do- Acc 514.30 543.80 +1.90 4.67
Commodity Acc 332.10 351.20 +1.40 2.27
Compnd Gth 634.30 670.80 +3.30 4.51
Dividend 25.90 27.70 +0.20 6.52
-do- Acc 96.10 102.80 +0.40 6.52
Equity Inc 229.70 242.90 +1.00 7.09
European Div 47.80 50.90† +0.10 5.60
-do- Acc 51.90 55.20 +0.10 5.60
Extra Yield 292.70 309.50 +1.20 7.34
-do- Acc 790.90 836.30 +3.10 7.34
Far Eastern 189.90 200.80 +0.30 0.65
-do- Acc 245.70 259.80 +0.40 0.65
Fund of Inv 392.70 415.30 +4.80 2.65
-do- Acc 693.00 732.00 +8.60 2.65
General 43.30 45.80† +0.10 5.26
-do- Acc 109.60 116.00 +0.40 5.26
Gilt Fxd Inc 59.00 61.60 ... 8.80
do Acc 132.50 139.10 ... 8.80
Gold 37.40 39.60† +0.20 1.76
-do- Acc 42.10 45.60 +0.20 1.76
High Inc 18.80 19.90† +0.20 7.10
-do- Acc 85.70 90.50 +0.20 7.10
Intl Growth 54.70 57.80† ... 1.10
-do- Acc 93.40 98.70 ... 1.10
Intl Inc 70.30 74.30 +0.40 5.81
Japan Gen Acc 38.60 40.80 +0.10 ...
Japan Smllr Cos 110.10 116.30 +0.40 ...
Midland 42.30 44.70 +0.20 4.15
-do- Acc 127.40 134.70 +0.70 4.15
Recovery 26.60 28.10† +0.10 3.41
-do- Acc 40.60 42.90 +0.20 3.41
Second Gen 46.00 48.60† +0.20 4.60
-do- Acc 108.10 114.30 +0.40 4.60
Smaller Cos 49.80 53.30 +0.20 3.40
-do- Acc 89.30 95.60 +0.30 3.40
Trustee 30.10 31.80 ... ...
Charibond 3 §105.47 ... +0.10 10.23
Charifund 2 490.60 495.60 +1.30 5.94
Pension ex 1 707.20 724.00 +1.10 5.34
NAACIF Inc 3 361.19 ... ... 6.54
-do- Acc 3 §851.26 ... ... 6.54

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 680060
Inv Port Inc 110.20 117.80† +0.10 3.36
-do- Acc 119.60 127.90† +0.10 3.36
UK Income 91.27 97.61† +0.01 4.40
-do- Acc 98.81 105.60† ... 4.40

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252
Emerg Mkts 52.25 55.88 +0.18 0.51
Far East (Pacific) 94.08 99.87 +0.33 0.80
Income Growth 61.04 64.79 -0.02 4.76
European 56.23 59.69 +0.13 1.27
Nth American 40.78 43.29 +0.04 0.61
UK Growth 58.37 61.96 +0.36 1.78
Intl Growth 71.95 76.37 ... 1.62
Charities 90.57 96.14 +0.44 5.82
High Yield 43.69 46.38† +0.03 7.66
Intl Income 47.90 50.84† +0.02 [illegible]
Japan 36.21 38.43 +0.06 ...

MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD
33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2060
American Gth 139.60 148.10 -0.20 0.06
-do- Acc 149.20 158.30 -0.20 0.06
American Inc 35.87 37.98 +0.06 6.72
-do- Acc 50.45 53.42 +0.08 6.72
Cash 100.20 100.20† ... 10.54
-do- Acc 119.20 119.20† +0.10 10.54
European Gth 160.80 170.20 +1.30 0.52
-do- Acc 170.70 180.70 +1.80 0.52
General 394.70 421.10 +1.80 2.85
-do- Acc 722.10 770.20 +3.10 2.85
Global Dist 109.00 114.50 -0.10 6.11
-do- Acc 113.20 118.80 -0.10 6.11
Govt Securities 86.43 90.83† -0.08 8.30
-do- Acc 142.60 149.90† -0.08 8.30
Income 114.80 122.50 +0.70 5.77
-do- Acc 157.60 168.20 +1.10 5.77
International 288.20 305.90† +1.00 0.91
-do- Acc 379.60 403.00† +1.40 0.91
Japan 148.50 157.30† ... ...
-do- Acc 152.50 161.50† +0.10 ...
Recovery 231.30 246.80 +1.00 4.40
-do- Acc 282.10 301.00 +1.30 4.40
European Inc 62.60 66.44† +0.25 3.53
-do- Acc 77.07 81.80† +0.31 3.53
Brit Blue Chip 61.64 65.75 +0.42 4.06
-do- Acc 69.93 74.59 +0.49 4.06
Portfolio 61.26 65.16 +0.37 3.68
-do- Acc 66.67 70.91 +0.40 3.68
Gold General 63.78 68.04 -0.01 3.57
-do- Acc 63.78 68.04 -0.01 3.57
High Income 45.03 48.04† +0.36 7.49
-do- Acc 56.80 60.50† +0.45 7.49
Pacific 56.54 60.31 +0.19 1.67
-do- Acc 59.13 63.07 +0.20 1.67
UK Smaller Cos 43.20 46.08 +0.14 2.16
-do- Acc 46.96 50.09 +0.15 2.16

MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD
192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 520 200 Enquiries: 0742 529 076
British Dist 67.88 72.60 +0.20 3.27
-do- Acc 72.94 78.01 +0.21 3.27
Capital 82.97 88.74† +0.18 3.45
-do- Acc 127.40 136.30 +0.40 3.45
European Gth 141.00 150.20 -0.10 0.85
-do- Acc 176.00 187.50 -0.10 0.85
Extra High Inc 58.27 62.32† +0.02 8.55
-do- Acc 94.53 101.10 ... 8.55
Gilt Fixed Int 52.08 54.23 +0.02 9.20
-do- Acc 125.40 130.60 +0.10 9.20
High Yield 176.40 188.70 +0.30 7.54
-do- Acc 385.80 412.60 +0.40 7.54
Income 235.20 251.60 +0.30 5.59
-do- Acc 462.80 495.00 +0.60 5.59
Intl High St Dist 62.26 65.52 -0.10 0.88
-do- Acc 64.72 69.22 -0.11 0.88
Japan Gth 244.80 261.60 -0.20 ...
-do- Acc 257.90 275.60 -0.10 ...
Mandarin Acc 64.71 69.21 +0.21 1.39
North American 130.40 139.50 +0.10 0.79
-do- Acc 163.70 175.10 +0.20 0.79
Mngd Port Acc 68.75 73.53 +0.07 2.18
Meridian Gth 123.70 132.20 +0.20 2.20
Meridian Inc 94.86 101.50† +0.30 4.40
Smaller Cos 106.60 114.00† +0.20 2.54
-do- Acc 125.40 134.10 +0.30 2.54

MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123
American Gth 192.20 205.50† +0.10 0.60
Cash Inc 100.40 100.40† +0.02 10.87
Cash Acc 113.70 113.70† +0.03 10.87
Euro Gth Acc 200.40 214.70† +0.50 ...
Europe 102.70 110.50 +0.20 ...
Intl Gth 139.10 148.70 +0.30 ...
Japan Trader 55.85 59.23 +0.01 ...
UK Equity Inc 112.30 120.90 +0.70 4.46
-do- Acc 129.50 139.40 +0.80 4.46
UK Ind Trader 122.50 130.70 +0.70 3.78
US Eq Ind Tdr 147.80 158.40 ... 2.06
-do- Acc 153.60 164.50 ... 2.06
Asian Trader 86.28 92.90 +0.36 1.70

MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT
7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933
American Inc 134.50 142.40 +0.30 3.43
European 54.30 58.28 +0.10 1.35
Far Eastern 108.20 115.40 +0.60 0.00
Olympiad 45.80 48.74 +0.08 1.19
Olympiad Inc 43.50 46.42 +0.09 4.17
Smaller Cos 46.55 49.67 +0.12 2.02
Equity Income 78.04 83.28† +0.40 6.30
UK Growth 73.41 78.35 +0.16 1.97

NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730
American Acc 37.41 39.90 -0.01 1.03
Australian Acc 221.00 238.10 +3.70 2.28
Conscience 53.71 57.32† +0.13 1.36
-do- Acc 56.99 60.82 +0.13 1.36
European 142.70 152.30 +0.20 1.02
-do- Acc 151.50 161.60 +0.20 1.02
Extra Income 62.15 66.26 +0.26 6.86
-do- Acc 88.15 94.07 +0.41 6.86
Far East Acc 102.00 109.00 -0.10 8.01
Gilt Fxd Inc 33.79 35.93 +0.03 ...
-do- Acc 28.43 30.33 +0.16 ...
Income 28.60 29.90 +0.08 ...
-do- Acc 43.09 45.99† +0.02 6.13
International 123.60 131.70 ... 6.13
-do- Acc 24.31 26.08 ... 0.42
Jap Sm Cos Acc 34.68 37.21 ... 0.42
S'pore Mly Acc 281.00 299.70 +0.10 ...
Smllr Cos Acc 104.80 112.10 -0.90 ...
Special Sits 23.25 25.00† +0.30 2.60
-do- Acc 26.22 28.19 +0.09 0.92
Tokyo 29.44 31.65 +0.10 0.92
-do- Acc 59.57 63.96 -0.35 ...
US Smllr Co Acc 71.58 76.39 -0.34 ...
UK Equity 137.10 146.20† +0.20 4.18
-do- Acc 248.20 264.70 +0.40 4.18

NEWTON FUND MANAGERS
2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404
General 129.35 137.61 +0.40 3.48
Global 222.63 236.85 +1.49 1.38
Income 156.18 166.15† +0.12 6.04
International 101.79 108.29 +0.08 7.47

PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD
PO Box 500, Thorpewood, Peterborough PE3 6GD. Dealing: 0800 626377. Enquiries: 0733 67767
Growth 118.50 124.70 +0.50 3.18
-do- Acc 200.40 210.90 +0.80 3.18
Income 178.40 189.70 +0.60 4.99
Intl Equity 174.10 185.20 +0.60 1.41
-do- Acc 188.60 200.60 +0.60 1.41
Equity 186.30 198.10† +1.00 3.09
-do- Acc 369.00 392.60 +2.10 3.09
UK Ind 25 Acc 56.00 59.57 +0.31 2.77
UK Income 48.09 51.16† +0.18 4.81
UK Smllr Co Acc 32.23 35.56 +0.05 2.41
New Europe Acc 33.60 37.02 +0.40 1.40

PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST
48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 576868
Asian Smllr Mkt 50.64 54.17 +0.14 1.16
PEP Gth Inc 69.67 74.52 +0.13 2.47
Intl Gth 349.27 373.56 -1.19 1.09
Income 220.59 235.93 +1.04 5.63
W wide Recov 209.69 224.27 -1.47 1.37
American Gth 139.55 149.26 -2.08 0.72
Intl Emerg Cos 115.52 123.56 -0.78 1.06
Far East Gth 124.93 133.62 -1.37 0.87

European Gth 87.50 93.50 +0.28 1.66
UK Growth 54.75 58.56 +0.30 4.47
High Income 60.29 64.49† -0.02 5.86
Japanese Gth 141.94 151.54 -1.04 0.01

PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London, EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443
International 149.30 158.80 -0.50 1.60
High Income 83.73 89.07 +0.13 5.30
Conv Gilt 98.62 104.90 +0.20 8.04
Far East 214.40 228.60 -4.80 0.90

PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT
1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751
American 39.61 42.14 -0.03 0.70
Emerging Mkts 41.46 44.11 -0.01 0.34
General 41.18 43.81† +0.07 3.89
International 69.14 73.55 +0.16 1.55
Gilt Units 24.20 24.95 +0.01 8.63
Global PEP 28.76 30.60 +0.05 2.47
Income Gth 54.44 57.91 +0.24 0.36
European 37.79 40.20 +0.46 1.32
Gilt/Fixed Int [illegible] 24.21† +0.07 7.92
UK Smaller Cos 20.60 21.91 +0.04 3.35

PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
51/69 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377
Holb Trust 23.63 25.27 ... 1.46
Holb Cash Hldgs 108.88 108.88 +0.03 10.09
Holb Equity 570.66 610.33 +3.89 3.26
Holb Equity Inc 65.66 70.22 +0.52 5.73
Holb European 145.54 155.65 +0.02 1.97
Holb Global Gth 62.55 66.89† +0.31 2.35
Holb High Inc 73.27 78.36† +0.48 6.70
Holb Intl 122.59 131.11† +0.01 1.58
Holb Intl Sm Co 51.95 55.56 -0.26 1.21
Holb Japanese 125.77 134.51 -0.45 ...
Holb Nth Amer 101.63 108.69 -0.74 0.43
Holb Pacific Mkt 52.06 55.68 -0.14 2.24
Holb Premr Inc 44.45 46.27† +0.09 8.18
Holb Smllr Cos 68.37 73.12 +0.11 2.73
Holb Spec Sits 84.35 90.21† +0.58 2.86
Holb UK Growth 93.51 100.01 +0.65 3.02

ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/4
Income 125.24 135.07 +0.76 4.97
Japan 187.37 201.01 -0.08 ...
Major UK Cos 80.23 86.39† +0.42 2.85
America Income 355.64 380.56 +0.96 0.67
-do- Acc 410.87 439.66 +1.10 0.67
Smllr UK Cos 195.34 213.28 +0.39 2.67
Smllr European 206.37 220.19 +0.12 1.55

SAVE & PROSPER
28 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966
Amer Inc Gth 54.39 57.86 +0.28 6.40
Capital Units 114.60 121.90† +0.50 2.12
Commodity 78.24 83.23 +0.42 1.94
European Gth 125.80 133.80 +0.60 1.36
Financial Sec 117.50 125.00 +0.40 2.51
High Return 196.10 208.60† +0.10 7.76
High Yield 190.60 202.70 -0.10 6.52
Income Units 89.61 95.32 +0.19 8.98
Investment 134.00 142.50 +1.10 1.98
Japan Gth 100.10 106.40 +0.40 ...
Japan Smaller 153.80 163.60 -0.40 ...
Masterfund 37.26 39.63† +0.10 1.91
Scotbits 172.20 183.10† +0.50 2.40
Scotshares 231.00 245.70 +0.70 4.00
Scotyields 188.10 200.10 +0.40 6.72
Select Intl 101.40 107.80 ... 0.76
Smaller Cos 202.90 215.80 +0.30 6.44
Special Situation 92.69 98.60 -0.12 2.11
UK Equity 201.70 214.50† +0.30 5.25
US Growth 108.10 114.90 ... 0.30

SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD
33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Dealing: 071 606 8484. Enquiries: 071 382 3800
American 180.90 192.90 -2.80 0.58
-do- Acc 194.60 207.50 -3.00 0.58
Australian 110.00 117.30 +1.30 0.95
-do- Acc 126.70 135.10 +1.60 0.95
UK Enterprise 153.80 164.00† -0.20 3.98
-do- Acc 173.10 184.60 -0.30 3.98
European Gth 52.39 55.82† +0.15 0.97
-do- Acc 53.61 57.18 +0.15 0.97
Euro Smllr Cos 49.87 53.19† +0.08 0.30
-do- Acc 50.07 53.40 +0.08 0.30
Far Eastern Gth 47.40 50.56 -0.03 ...
-do- Acc 48.08 51.28 -0.04 ...
Fixed Interest 48.95 51.57 +0.02 8.22
-do- Acc 55.40 58.38 +0.02 8.22
Gilt Income 98.00 103.20 +0.10 8.92
-do- Acc 123.50 130.10 +0.10 8.92
Income 140.00 149.30 +0.20 5.50
-do- Acc 661.00 705.00 +0.50 5.50
Japan Enterprise 47.73 50.91 +0.04 0.67
-do- Acc 47.73 50.91 +0.04 0.67
Japan Smllr Cos 339.60 362.20 -3.10 ...
-do- Acc 340.30 362.90 -3.10 ...
Pacific Gth 54.62 58.26 -0.03 1.73
-do- Acc 55.50 59.19 -0.04 1.73
Smaller Cos 150.50 160.50† +0.80 2.60
-do- Acc 170.00 181.30 +0.90 2.60
Tokyo 75.77 81.30 -0.05 ...
-do- Acc 77.55 82.71 -0.05 ...
UK Equity 165.40 176.40† ... 4.27
-do- Acc 297.50 317.30 -0.10 4.27
US Smllr Cos 75.46 80.60 -1.07 ...
-do- Acc 75.68 80.80 -1.07 ...
World Bd 56.96 60.76 +0.03 1.87
-do- Acc 58.77 62.68 +0.03 1.87

SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200
Equity Income 33.78 35.98 -0.20 4.99
Equity Strategy 40.39 43.43 -0.14 4.48
European Opps 61.41 65.48 ... 1.30
Maximum Inc 101.00 103.63 +0.03 10.31
UK Smaller Cos 39.47 42.04 +0.25 4.04

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211
UK Equity 288.00 308.00 +1.30 3.79
American 185.00 196.30 +0.70 1.12
Pacific 240.50 257.20 +0.70 0.31
European 366.80 392.10 +0.40 1.41
Worldwide 64.84 69.35 +0.15 1.32

SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100
UK Equity 261.00 277.70† +1.30 3.50
UK Sm Cos Rcvy 194.00 206.40† +1.00 2.77
European 206.30 223.30 +0.40 0.62
North American 196.70 209.30 -0.20 0.50
Income Plus Inc 52.59 55.95 +0.04 6.64
UK Spec Sits 59.82 63.58 +0.29 2.39

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD
6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3
Equity Gth Acc 21.36 22.86 +0.09 4.22
Intl Growth Acc 22.70 24.30 +0.05 0.67
Global Inc Acc 22.30 24.04† +0.06 3.00
Market Ldrs Acc 21.74 23.27 +0.11 4.70

SG TOUCHE REMNANT
Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250
American Gth 61.57 65.85 ... ...
Euro Spec Sits 35.76 38.02 ... ...
-do- Acc 37.32 39.68 ... ...
Far East Opps 20.67 22.30† ... ...
-do- Acc 21.10 22.77 ... ...

[illegible] 82.11 87.58† ... 2.54
[illegible] Growth 94.24 101.20 ... [illegible]
[illegible] Tech 81.26 87.42† ... 6.55
[illegible] Growth 49.77 53.05 ... ...
[illegible] Monthly 64.58 68.36† ... [illegible]
[illegible] Growth 33.43 35.83 ... 2.55
[illegible] 37.73 40.44 ... ...
[illegible] 59.65 63.79 ... 4.10
[illegible] Gth 66.88 71.91 ... 4.07
[illegible] 72.98 78.47 ... ...
[illegible] 33.79 36.34 ... ...
-do- [illegible] 33.82 36.43 ... ...

STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 [illegible]
Managed 35.97 38.17 +0.30 2.39
Equity Gth Acc 49.71 52.82 +0.40 1.96
UK Eq Growth 46.66 49.58 +0.60 3.48
-do- Acc 38.51 38.80 +0.40 3.48
European Acc [illegible] 28.51 +0.20 1.68
Far East Acc [illegible] 42.81 -0.10 ...
Gilt Fxd Int Inc [illegible] 29.31 ... 7.45
N American Acc [illegible] 39.22 +0.50 0.71
Ofs Lgr Cos Acc [illegible] 234.70 +0.78 2.16
UK Eq High Inc [illegible] 31.20 +0.20 0.67
-do- Acc [illegible] 35.08 +0.20 6.61
UK Lgr Cos Inc 248.80 267.40 +2.70 4.86
UK Lgr Cos Acc 306.00 332.10 +3.40 4.67

STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 226 3271
American 302.30 322.50 +5.50 0.71
British 805.30 882.00 +3.10 6.09
European 336.40 358.40 +0.90 1.44
Japan 105.90 112.80 -0.40 ...
New Pacific 182.80 194.20 +0.60 1.77
Mngd Cash 95.93 95.93 +0.02 10.28
Majority Stg 99.97 100.97 +0.02 10.19
PEP ... 3.63
Saints PPP 146.40 154.60
287.00 302.70

SUN ALLIANCE
Sun Alliance House, Horsham, Sussex. 0403 56293
Equity Acc 607.90 650.20† +1.90 3.10
N America Acc 86.59 92.61† -0.11 0.64
Far East Acc 88.64 94.80† +0.10 0.94
W wide Bond 48.73 51.84 -0.01 6.32
European 67.32 72.00 -0.05 1.63
Equity Income 64.73 69.23† -0.16 5.87

SUN LIFE OF CANADA
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414
American Gth 27.00 28.88 -0.01 0.50
Managed Assets 100.32 107.30† +0.33 4.28
UK Income 30.27 32.38 +0.10 6.07
UK Growth 30.75 32.89 +0.19 4.06
Worldwide Gth 23.82 25.48 -0.02 1.80

TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE. 0264 346794
American 165.43 175.98 +0.23 0.04
-do- Acc 181.69 193.28 +0.25 0.04
British Gth 73.55 78.24 +0.04 3.19
-do- Acc 83.73 89.07 +0.05 3.19
European 73.43 78.11 +0.14 1.23
-do- Acc 76.83 81.73 +0.14 1.23
Extra Inc 153.25 163.03 +0.01 5.66
-do- Acc 227.96 242.51 ... 5.66
General Unit 226.90 241.38† +0.21 3.55
-do- Acc 435.71 463.52† +0.40 3.55
Income 269.09 286.90 -0.12 5.82
-do- Acc 526.67 560.28 -0.23 5.82
International 395.41 420.64 +0.01 0.61
-do- Acc 512.69 545.41 +0.02 0.61
Pacific 224.02 238.31 -2.59 1.11
-do- Acc 234.08 249.02 -2.70 1.11
Premier Income 45.79 47.69† -0.02 8.64
-do- Acc 88.25 91.92† -0.04 8.64
Nat Resources 63.92 67.99 +0.17 0.87
-do- Acc 69.75 74.20 +0.18 0.87
Selected Opps 75.22 80.02 +0.11 2.88
-do- Acc 92.08 97.95 +0.14 2.88

TARGET TRUST MANAGERS
The Exchange, 66 High St, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 1SE. 0296 312156
American Eagle 86.58 92.89† +0.31 0.95
Australia 6.398 6.860† +0.120 1.73
Equity 156.30 168.10† +0.80 4.84
Euro Spec Sits 118.10 125.60 -0.30 0.69
Financial 28.50 30.56 +0.13 4.67
Global Opps Inc 34.38 36.36 +0.12 2.71
-do- Acc 70.99 75.97 +0.33 2.71
Gold Gen Inc 37.14 39.80 +0.40 1.37
-do- Acc 69.80 74.98 +0.80 1.37
Income 98.03 106.10† +0.35 6.53
Japan General 118.90 127.20 -0.10 ...
Preference 19.42 20.85† -0.04 9.40
UK Capital 88.31 94.48† +0.25 3.98
Worldwide Cap 167.50 179.40† +0.50 2.65
World Income 66.04 70.78† +0.30 4.22

THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD
33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545
American Oppr 78.60 83.83 +0.88 0.13
-do- Acc 81.07 86.46 +0.90 0.13
Cash 31.32 31.32 +0.01 10.25
-do- Acc 34.71 34.71 +0.01 10.25
European Oppr 50.97 53.53 +0.37 ...
-do- Acc 54.31 57.87 +0.37 ...
Far East Oppr 112.48 120.14 +0.10 0.58
-do- Acc 114.50 122.22 +0.10 0.58
Gold Oppr [illegible]
-do- Acc [illegible]
Sanyo Japan 60.21 64.11 -0.50 ...
-do- Acc 60.21 64.11 -0.56 ...
Latin [illegible] 41.82 44.79 +0.09 0.56
-do- Acc 41.82 44.79 +0.09 0.56
Oriental Income 32.15 34.23 +0.07 5.11
-do- Acc 38.01 41.23 +0.07 5.11
Tiger 145.06 155.08 +0.90 0.74
-do- Acc 150.69 160.73 +0.30 0.74
UK Small Cos 53.49 57.20 +0.20 1.00
-do- Acc 59.96 64.14 +0.20 1.00

UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS
Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544
United Charities 191.50 204.30 +0.80 5.15

WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ 031 225 1551
Australasian Gold 10.52 11.10 +0.11 0.50
Pacific Basin 20.04 21.70 +0.08 0.60
Canadian Gth 37.08 39.41 +0.02 0.10
Global Bond 81.003 81.045 -0.002 7.78
Penny Share 19.18 20.40 +0.01 1.50

WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132
Cty Reserve 52.09 52.10† +0.02 10.60
Gilt Growth 47.40 50.74 -0.09 ...
Gilt Income 48.12 50.07† -0.06 10.04
Short Dtd Gilt 94.98 96.22 ... 1.04
US Govmt Bd 90.677 90.686 -0.000 ...
Challenger 71.14 72.83 +0.15 ...

WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
1 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 0105 [illegible]
Stockmarket Fd 55.21 58.73 +0.35 2.96

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	591	Courtaulds	306	MEPC	205	Sainsbury	8,500
Alld-Lyons	1,500	Enterpr Oil	606	Marks Spr	2,200	Scot & New	1,600
Anglian W	2,500	Eurotnnl U	148	Midlnd Bk	702	Scot Power	3,700
Argyll Gp	1,300	Fisons	11,000	NFC	863	Sears	6,700
Arjo Wiggn	452	Forte	3,300	NatWst Bk	2,500	Svrn Trent	1,000
AB Foods	212	GRE	8,200	Nat Power	1,400	Shell Trans	1,400
BAA	1,300	GUS A	313	Nth Wst W	2,700	SmKl Bch	1,900
BAT Inds	2,200	Gen Acc	653	Nthm Fds	1,300	Smith Nph	1,200
BET	16,000	Gen Elec	7,400	P & O	1,200	Smith (WH)	84
BOC	1,000	Glaxo	1,800	Pearson	213	Sun Allnce	929
BP	12,000	Grand Met	2,100	Pilkington	1,200	TSB	7,600
BTR	2,000	Guinness	2,200	PowerGen	2,200	Tarmac	1,700
Bk of Scot	1,900	Hanson	9,200	Prudential	1,400	Tate & Lyle	809
Barclays	4,800	Hillsdown	1,300	RMC	240	Tesco	8,600
Bass	1,000	ICI	1,800	RTZ	1,800	Thames W	2,600
Blue Circle	2,000	Inchcape	554	Rank Org	657	Thrn EMI	687
Boots	3,900	Kingfisher	1,800	Reckitt Col	346	Tomkins	720
Brit Aero	2,100	LASMO	1,000	Redland	1,500	Traf House	664
Brit Airwys	4,200	Ladbroke	1,900	Reed Intl	913	Unilever	542
Brit Gas	4,700	Land Secs	307	Rentokil	520	Utd Bisc	440
Brit Steel	6,800	Laporte	29	Reuters	477	Vodafone	832
Brit Tele	5,000	Legal & Gn	1,200	Rolls Royce	8,800	Wellcome	187
Cable Wire	1,400	Lloyds Bk	503	Rothmans	220	Whitbd 'A'	254
Cadbury	1,400	Lonrho	12,000	Royal Ins	1,200	Wllms Hld	6,900
Cm Union	143	MB Cardn	314	Ryl Bk Scot	1,000	Willis Crrn	1,200

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 3249.33 (+8.72); S&P Composite 415.15 (+0.16)
Tokyo: Nikkei Av'ge 21390.52 (+383.41)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 4586.33 (+31.60)
FT-SE Euro 100 1143.22 (+0.70)
Amsterdam: CBS Tendency 122.0 (+0.6)
Sydney: AO 1626.0 (+10.1)
Frankfurt: DAX 1683.08 (-0.50)
Brussels: General 5868.02 (+11.20)
Paris: CAC 503.98 (same)
Zurich: SKA Gen 469.8 (+0.6)
London: FT A All-Share 1219.99 (+6.09); FT 500 1372.92 (+7.07); FT Gold Mines 153.3 (+0.5); FT Fixed interest 99.98 (+0.12); FT Govt Secs 87.84 (+0.10); Bargains 27881; SEAQ Volume 551.8m; USM (Datastrm) 138.42 (+0.21)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 20	January 31	April 23	May 5

Call options were taken out on 28/1/92: Airtours, Aviva Petroleum, Burton Group, Fisons, FNFC, Gartmore Value, YJ Lovell, Marks & Spencer, Midland & Scottish, Paion, Racal, Stanhope, Tarmac, Willis Corroon. Puts: Amber Day, Ladbroke. Put & Call: Amstrad.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon	600	63	77	90	14	25	32
(*642)	650	37	49	63	34	50	[illegible]
ASDA	34	6½	-	-	5	-	-
(*36)	43	2½	-	-	11	-	-
Bass	525	33	42	56	14	22	26
(*536)	550	19	31	43	28	35	40
Boots	420	52	61	70	5	10	13
(*463)	460	25	32	44	17	25	28
Br Airways	220	28	33	39	6	11	13
(*238)	240	16	22	29	14	21	24
BP	280	20	24	29	9	13	16
(*291)	300	9	15	20	21	24	29
Br Steel	70	12	13	15	2½	4½	5½
(*77)	80	5	7	10	7½	9	10
C & W	550	50	70	84	11	20	23
(*589)	600	27	40	56	32	41	46
CU	460	20	33	37	26	32	38
(*463)	500	6	15	22	57	60	62
Courtauld	500	48	57	71	12	22	24
(*524)	550	21	31	44	36	44	45
GKN	300	20	26	29	17	20	26
(*312)	330	7	14½	17	37	37	44
Grnd Met	950	53	79	96	30	39	47
(*958)	1000	29	53	71	57	65	70
ICI	1250	[illegible]	90	110	60	70	85
(*1265)	1300	31	67	77	92	100	115
Kingfishr	500	45	52	63	10	20	25
(*524)	550	17	28	38	38	45	50
Ladbroke	200	25	28	35	7	11	14
(*217)	220	13	19	24	16	21	23
Land Sec	460	35	40	46	9	19	22
(*479)	500	14	18	28	30	42	45
M & S	280	27	32	42	5½	11	13
(*300)	300	15	21	30	14	20	21
Sainsbury	360	24	29	39	10	16	19
(*369)	390	9	15	25	28	32	34
Shell	460	36	48	55	9	13	18
(*491)	500	13	26	32	31	34	39
Smkl Bch	900	59	85	113	31	42	50
(*924)	950	34	58	84	57	67	74
Storehse	100	13	16	18	4	8	9
(*106)	110	7	10	13	10	12	14
Trafalgar	120	21	24	28	7	12	14
(*131)	130	15	18	24	11	17	20
Ultramar	280	20	-	-	18	-	-
(*287)	300	13	22	-	32	-	-
Unilever	900	43	62	82	32	40	47
(*914)	950	20	39	59	63	70	75
Utd Bisc	390	29	35	44	10	16	20
(*407)	420	12	21	29	30	33	37

Series		Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
BAA	500	51	67	72	2	7	13
(*550)	550	14	34	40	13	24	31
BAT Ind	600	52	64	71	3	16	24
(*648)	650	16	35	42	19	36	47
BTR	420	18	28	37	7	18	22
(*431)	460	2	10	18	34	44	46
Br Aero	280	16	24	37	14	36	40
(*281)	300	7	20	28	27	50	54
Br Telcm	300	29	40	46	2	5	9½
(*327)	330	7	20	27	8	15	21
Cadbury	420	32	44	57	5	15	21
(*446)	460	10	23	40	23	36	40
Guinness	525	23	37	-	7	19	-
(*542)	550	9	24	36	18	32	35
GEC	200	6½	14	17½	4	7½	12
(*202)	220	1	5	-	20	20½	-
Hanson	200	15	23	26	2	5	7½
(*210)	220	2½	10½	14	10	13	16
LASMO	240	15	24	31	5½	16	21
(*248)	260	6	15	21	16	29	31
Lucas	110	12	15	19	2½	6	8
(*118)	120	4½	9½	13	5	11	13
P & O	420	23	35	41	7	26	30
(*435)	460	5	15	25	31	50	55
Pilkngtn	130	12	20	20	3	7½	13
(*141)	140	5½	15	15	7	13	18
Prudential	220	14	-	-	2½	-	-
(*230)	240	4	-	-	13	-	-
Racal Elc	47	3	-	-	2	-	-
(*49)	51	1½	-	-	5	-	-
RTZ	500	43	50	64	4	17	21
(*532)	550	10	24	37	21	40	45
Scot New	420	18	36	43	6	15	22
(*429)	460	3½	16	23	35	37	43
Tesco	240	12	19	24	4½	11	14
(*247)	260	3	9	-	17	23	-
Thames W	350	23	-	-	5	-	-
(*364)	370	9	-	-	14	-	-
Vodafone	330	26	40	46	2½	9	14
(*353)	360	7½	23	30	15	23	27

FT-SE INDEX (*2553)

	2400	2450	2500	2550	2600	2650
Calls Jan	160	108	69	25	4	1
Feb	184	132	[illegible]	66	47	25
Mar	210	160	125	98	77	[illegible]
Apr	226	187	153	125	93	76
Puts Jan	1	1	5	13	46	112
Feb	13	19	27	[illegible]	80	120
Mar	26	36	47	70	101	125
Apr	44	57	66	91	118	149

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	280	19	25	30	9½	13	15
(*292)	300	7½	15	19	21	24	27
Amstrad	25	6	8	9½	3	4	5½
(*28)	30	3½	5½	6½	5½	7	8
Barclays	360	32	36	42	9	15	22
(*386)	390	12	22	26	25	30	34
Blue Circ	240	30	33	37	5	12	15
(*264)	260	16	22	27	12	22	25
Br Gas	240	13	18	22	7	13	15
(*243)	260	4	9	13	20	26	29
Dixons	220	16	26	29	9	13	17
(*224)	240	7	17	20	19	24	27
Eurotnnl	420	55	75	85	14	22	35
(*469)	460	32	53	70	35	45	50
Forte	220	19	25	27	3½	9½	12
(*231)	240	7	13	17	14	20	22
Glaxo	850	46	79	103	44	59	70
(*856)	900	25	58	80	71	87	95
Hawker	750	70	70	-	3	9	-
(*816)	800	22	30	-	-	-	-
Hillsdwn	140	22	27	28	4	7½	10
(*156)	160	8	13	16	11	20	21
Lonrho	110	23	29	32	6	9½	13
(*124)	120	15	23	26	8½	14	19
Midland	220	16	27	32	13	18	21
(*223)	240	9	16	22	25	29	32
Reuter	1050	60	100	123	33	54	68
(*1077)	1100	33	72	97	60	80	90
R-Royce	130	17	19	22	5½	7	9
(*144)	140	10	13	16	10	12	14
Sears	90	11	13	14	2½	7	7
(*99)	100	4½	7	8½	7½	13	14
Thrn Emi	800	42	68	72	14	24	36
(*825)	850	16	39	46	40	47	60
TSB	130	7½	13	15	6	9	12
(*135)	140	3	8½	-	12	14	-
Vaal Reefs	60	8	10	11	2	5	6
(*67)	70	3½	3½	6½	8	10	12
Wellcome	1050	85	124	155	29	52	65
(*1105)	1100	55	97	122	49	73	90

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Fisons	330	50	60	74	10	14	17
(*369)	360	30	43	55	18	22	27

Series		Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
Eastn Elc	200	31	38	41	2	3½	6½
(*228)	230	6	16	-	9	13	-

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Natl Pwr	205	19	27	30	4	6½	10
(*218)	215	12	20	23	8	11	14
Scot Pwr	90	14	18	19	2	4	5½
(*102)	100	6½	11	13	4½	6½	10

January 28, 1992 Tot: 28724 Call: 13913 Put: 14811 FT-SE Call: 2199 Put: 6269
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 36539)	Mar 92	2579.0	2596.0	2568.0	2594.0	7728
	Jun 92	2626.5	2626.5	2625.5	2628.5	36
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 192713)	Mar 92	89.74	89.85	89.72	89.83	32666
	Jun 92	90.08	90.16	90.07	90.14	9378
	Sep 92	90.38	90.47	90.38	90.44	2703
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 38382)	Mar 92	95.76	95.82	95.76	95.82	870
	Jun 92	95.56	95.63	95.55	95.62	679
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 220973)	Mar 92	90.56	90.64	90.55	90.62	12096
	Jun 92	91.06	91.13	91.02	91.11	19545
US Treasury Bond (Previous open interest: 4960)	Mar 92	101-18	102-03	101-18	101-31	1605
	Jun 92				100-29	0
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 53927)	Mar 92	97-03	97-24	97-02	97-19	32017
	Jun 92	97-12	97-27	97-12	97-26	265
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 92	103.14	103.17	103.12	103.16	369
	Jun 92				103.01	0
German Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 122131)	Mar 92	88.15	88.44	88.03	88.39	70447
	Jun 92	88.51	88.81	88.51	88.83	0
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 7389)	Mar 92	89.89	89.92	89.85	89.92	687
	Jun 92	90.42	90.50	90.41	90.50	260
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 28876)	Mar 92	92.53	92.58	92.50	92.57	1208
	Jun 92	92.82	92.87	92.81	92.84	652
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 21981)	Mar 92	98.36	98.80	98.27	98.74	10550
	Jun 92	98.45	98.61	98.45	98.78	80

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 90.8 (day's range 90.7-90.8).

Mkt Rates for Jan 28	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2274-3.2390	3.2274-3.2310	⅝-½pr	⅞-¾pr
Brussels	58.97-59.22	58.97-59.18	6-2pr	18-13pr
Copenhagen	11.1053-11.1496	11.1084-11.1326	⅜-⅛pr	1⅜-⅞pr
Dublin	1.0758-1.0785	1.0758-1.0768	5pr-1ds	8pr-1ds
Frankfurt	2.8668-2.8754	2.8668-2.8702	⅜-¼pr	⅞-¾pr
Lisbon	246.12-247.69	246.41-247.44	102-131ds	231-290ds
Madrid	180.31-181.12	180.48-181.12	24-35ds	89-105ds
Milan	2154.54-2161.03	2154.59-2159.39	1-3ds	6-8ds
Montreal	2.0867-2.1046	2.1008-2.1046	0.63-0.57pr	1.27-1.20pr
New York	1.7835-1.7950	1.7940-1.7950	0.93-0.92pr	2.75-2.73pr
Oslo	11.2376-11.2745	11.2376-11.2618	¼-⅛pr	½-¼pr
Paris	9.7638-9.7969	9.7638-9.7783	⅜-¼pr	1-⅞pr
Stockholm	10.4044-10.4465	10.4052-10.4290	1⅛-1⅞ds	4-4⅞ds
Tokyo	223.72-225.54	225.24-225.54	1-¾pr	3-2¾pr
Vienna	20.1664-20.2354	20.1664-20.1955	2⅛-1pr	5⅞-2⅝pr
Zurich	2.5486-2.5556	2.5493-2.5525	¾-½pr	2-1⅝pr

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.
Source: Extel

Argentina austral*	1.7703-1.7731
Australia dollar	2.3958-2.3988
Bahrain dinar	0.6695-0.6775
Brazil cruzeiro*	2272.06-2273.72
Cyprus pound	0.801-0.811
Finland markka	7.785-7.845
Greece drachma	330.65-333.85
Hong Kong dollar	13.8719-13.8816
India rupee	46.12-46.52
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5165-0.5225
Malaysia ringgit	4.7691-4.7754
Mexico peso	5457-5557
New Zealand dollar	3.3053-3.3134
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.6575-6.7375
Singapore dollar	2.9228-2.9263
S Africa rand (fin)	5.7856-5.8850
S Africa rand (com)	5.0012-5.0131
U A E dirham	6.52-6.60

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank.

Australia	1.3399-1.3408
Austria	11.29-11.31
Belgium (Com)	33.04-33.08
Canada	1.1713-1.1718
Denmark	6.2200-6.2250
France	5.4670-5.4720
Germany	1.6045-1.6055
Hong Kong	7.7575-7.7585
Ireland	1.6590-1.6610
Italy	1204.0-1205.0
Japan	125.75-125.85
Malaysia	2.6670-2.6690
Netherlands	1.8070-1.8080
Norway	6.2930-6.2980
Portugal	138.00-138.30
Singapore	1.6345-1.6355
Spain	100.80-100.90
Sweden	5.8275-5.8325
Switzerland	1.4258-1.4265

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 10½ Finance Hse 11
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 11 Low 9 Week fixed: 10⅜
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 10⅛; 3 mth 9 15/16. Sell: 2 mth 10; 3 mth 9 11/16.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	10¼-7/32	10 5/32-10⅛	9 31/32-29/32	9 11/16-21/32	
Sterling Money Rates:	10⅜-10¼	10¼-10⅛	10 3/16-10 1/16	10 7/16-3/8	10 5/16-1/4
Interbank:	10¾-10 11/16	10 23/32-21/32	10 19/32-10½	10 21/32-5/32	10¼-10 3/16

Overnight: open 11, close 9½.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	10¾	n/a	10 9/16	10⅜	10¼
Sterling CDs:	10 11/16-10⅝	10 11/16-10⅝	10 17/32-10½	10¼-10 7/32	10 3/32-10⅛
Dollar CDs:	4.12-4.07	4.12-4.07	4.12-4.07	4.18-4.13	4.53-4.48
Building Society CDs:	10 23/32-21/32	10 23/32-21/32	10 9/16-10½	10 9/16-5/32	10 7/32-3/16

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 31; 1991 Agreed rates Jan 26, 1992 to Feb 25, 1992 Scheme I: 11.80%. Schemes II & III: 12.06%. Reference rate Nov 30, 1991 to Dec 31, 1991 Scheme IV & V: 10.812%.

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	4⅛-3⅞	4 3/16-3 15/16	4 3/16-3 15/16	4 5/16-4 1/16	4-3⅞
Deutschemark:	9 11/16-9 9/16	9 9/16-9 7/16	9½-9⅜	9 7/16-9 5/16	9⅛-8⅞
French Franc:	10⅛-9⅞	10 1/16-9⅞	10 1/16-9⅞	9⅞-9⅝	10-9
Swiss Franc:	7½-7¼	7½-7⅜	7 7/16-7 5/16	7⅜-7¼	8-7
Yen:	5¾-5½	5 7/16-5 5/16	5⅛-5	4 15/16-4 13/16	5½-4⅞

Bullion: Open $356.00-356.40 Close: $356.00-356.50 High: $356.85-357.15 Low: $355.00-355.50 Krugerrand: $355.75-356.75 (£197.75-198.75)
Sovereigns: Old $85.00-86.00 (£47.25-48.25) New $84.75-85.75 (£47.00-48.00)
Platinum: $352.85 (£197.30) Silver: $4.19 (£2.325) Palladium: $87.65 (£49.00)

COMMODITIES

REPORT: Cocoa futures extended losses to close on or just above the day's lows. Raw sugar futures continued their earlier decline in afternoon business. Robusta coffee futures closed with moderate losses but were above the day's lows as the market eased in line with New York in routine dealings. Weaker physical and FOB markets led wheat futures easier.

LONDON FOX

COCOA
Mar 720-719; May 748-747; Jul 774-773; Sep 797-796; Dec 828-826; Mar 858-856
May 876-875; Jul 894 SLR; Sep 912-900; Dec 938-935
Volume: 5209

COFFEE (ROBUSTA)
Sep unq; Nov unq; Jan 549-545; Mar 550-549
May unq; Jul unq; Sep unq
Volume: 678

RAW SUGAR (FOB)
C Czarnikow Spot: n/a; Mar 183.4-83.0; May 183.4-83.0; Aug 185.8-85.2
Oct 187.2-86.6; Dec 185.0-83.8; Mar 182.6-81.6; May 181.6-80.6
Volume: 675

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)
Reuters Spot: 272.0; Mar 266.0-65.1; May 268.9-68.0; Aug 273.4-72.0
Oct 262.4-61.0; Dec 263.5-62.5; Mar 264.7-63.3; May 267.7-64.3
Volume: 1007

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 28

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	90.94	107.96	106.86
(+/-)	-7.47	-6.38	+1.71
Eng/Wales:	91.14	107.52	106.18
(+/-)	+8.82	+5.92	+1.82
(%)	-5.5	-5.9	-18.0
Scotland:	89.36	109.44	108.71
(+/-)	-2.53	-7.95	+1.36
(%)	-60.7	+11.2	-16.8

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (flag)

	Open	Close
Jan	110.0	110.5
Feb	117.0	118.5
Mar	116.5	116.3

Volume: 140

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t): Mar 127.20; May 130.65; Jun 132.20; Sep 112.25; Nov 115.60. Volume: 173

BARLEY (close £/t): Mar 119.50; May 122.50; Sep 108.40; Nov 112.00; Jan 115.00. Volume: 0

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t): Feb 129.50; Apr 129.00; Jun 123.50; Aug 124.50; Oct unq. Volume: 25

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	113.5
Apr	118.8	118.2
May	118.8	137.1

Volume: 69

RUBBER No 1 RSS Cif (p/kg): Mar 51.50-51.00

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR)

London 6.00pm: During the course of a thinly traded day, WTI found greater buying interest than it's european counterpart.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.45	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Feb)	18.45	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Mar)	18.25	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	19.25	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	19.35	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	200 (n/c)	204 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	175 (-4)	176 (-5)
Non EEC 1H Feb	178 (-4)	179 (-5)
Non EEC 1H Mar	178 (-3)	179 (-4)
3.5 Fuel Oil	62 (+1)	64 (n/c)
Naphtha	181 (-3)	182 (-3)

IPE FUTURES
GAS OIL: Feb 175.00-74.50; Mar 172.50-72.25; Apr 169.00 BID; May 167.00-66.50; Jun 167.75-67.00; Jul 168.00-67.25; Aug 170.00 SLR. Vol: 6832
BRENT: Feb 18.55-18.60; Mar 18.30-18.35; Apr 18.15-18.20. Vol: n/a

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 92	1468	1461	1461
Feb 92	1491	1460	1460
Mar 92	1515	1487	1492
Apr 92	1520	1503	1503

Vol: 292 lots. Open int'st: 2534 Index 1468 -15

FOX MGMI INDEX
Nov Bid: unq Offer: --
Jan Bid: unq Offer: --
Jun Bid: unq Offer: --
(5pm prices) Volume: unq

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3 mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1211.5-1212.5	1240.0-1240.5	683100
Lead (£/tonne)	281.75-282.00	293.75-294.25	56050
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1168.0-1169.0	1157.0-1158.0	261600
Tin ($/tonne)	5457.0-5458.0	5515.0-5516.0	4760
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1250.5-1251.5	1276.5-1277.0	1028450
Nickel ($/tonne)	7650.0-7660.0	7730.0-7735.0	22252

هكذا من الأصل

Shares consolidate gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 27. Dealings end February 7. §Contango day February 10. Settlement day February 17. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Banks (S C)	Foods	
2	St Ives Gp	Paper,Print	
3	Sthrn Water	Water	
4	Wolseley	Industrial	
5	First Nat Fin	Banks,Disc	
6	Cable Wireless	Electrical	
7	Grampian	Leisure	
8	Cowie (T)	Motors,Air	
9	Paterson Zoch	Chems,Plas	
10	Warburg SG	Banks,Disc	
11	ECC Group	Industrial	
12	Vodafone	Electrical	
13	Dunhill	Drapery,Strs	
14	Yorkshire W	Water	
15	Land Sec	Property	
16	South West	Water	
17	Hardy Hanson	Breweries	
18	EMAP	Newspapr,Pub	
19	Sainsbury J	Foods	
20	Severn Trent	Water	
21	Whitegate	Leisure	
22	Kingfisher	Drapery,Strs	
23	Gr Portland	Property	
24	Wolvrhmptn D	Breweries	
25	Pearson	Newspapr,Pub	
26	Northumbrian	Water	
27	RHM	Foods	
28	Boots	Industrial	
29	Greycoat	Property	
30	Cadbury-Schw	Foods	
31	Ultramar	Oils,Gas	
32	Steetley	Building,Rds	
33	Wassall	Industrial	
34	Hardy O & G	Oils,Gas	
35	Barr & W 'A'	Leisure	
36	Hawker Siddly	Industrial	
37	Proudfoot Alex	Industrial	
38	Hambros	Banks,Disc	
39	Ocean Group	Transport	
40	Allied-Lyons	Breweries	
41	Amec	Building,Rds	
42	Caffyns	Motors,Air	
43	MEPC	Property	
44	Airsprung	Industrial	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd.	Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

The £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was won yesterday by Mr Richard Budworth, of London W2.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
295	212	East Midlands	253	+6	...	6.2	7.2
271	204½	Eastern Elect	228	+4½	...	6.5	8.6
124½	99½	Hydro-Elect	103 †	+2	...	5.0	12.9
295	206	London Elect	259½	+11½	...	6.0	7.6
344	230½	Manweb	320	+10	...	5.5	8.6
298	206	Midlands Elec	269	+11	...	5.9	8.0
292	213	Northern Elec	263	+11	...	6.5	6.1
311	213	Norweb	298	+14	...	5.7	11.1
119½	95	Scottish Power	102	+2	...	5.1	13.4
295	204	Seeboard	268	+10	...	5.8	6.4
366	224	Sth Wales	319	+8	...	5.8	8.1
303	209	Sth Western	276	+14	...	5.9	8.3
290	208½	Southern Elec	267	+9	...	5.7	8.4
322	227	Yorkshire Elec	316	+11	...	5.3	8.2
£2865	£1425	Package Unit	£2728	+4800	...	...	...
235	185	National Power	218 †	+5	...	5.0	8.0
254	187	PowerGen	230	+5	...	4.8	8.3

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000

Claims required for +47 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
53	26	Automagic●	26	...	0.5	2.0	...
64	37	Headlam	57	+2	2.4	5.7	18.8
320	183	Lambert	320	...	11.2	4.7	9.2
100	40	Pittard Garnar	81	...	0.2	...	...
41	13½	Strong & Fisher	37	−1	...	...	...
285	182	Stylo	184	...	9.0	6.5	34.6

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
772	559	BAT	648	+2	31.1	6.4	64.9
1148	635	Rothmans 'B'	1066	−5	18.5	2.3	12.7

TRANSPORT

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
409	322	Anglian Water	348	−2	17.5	6.7	7.2
406	327	Northumbrian	373	+4	18.6	6.6	4.8
395	322	North West	355	+6	18.0	6.8	6.3
370	296	Severn Trent	331	+4	17.5	7.1	5.1
307	203	Sthrn Water	329	+4	17.2	7.2	5.5
392	302	South West	331	+2	20.0	8.1	5.0
397	323	Thames Water	364	+5	17.5	6.4	7.4
422	341	Welsh Water	365	+1	19.5	7.1	4.4
450	325	Wessex Water	395	+14	17.7	6.0	6.2
431	335	Yorkshire W	380	+5	17.7	6.2	6.8

Source: Finstat

● USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ‡ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

Rafferty is putting his past behind him

Ronan Rafferty is ready to re-establish himself as a potential major champion and standard-bearer for British golf after spending a year in the doldrums.

Mitchell Platts reports

Ronan Rafferty launches his European season in the Asian Classic in Bangkok tomorrow with a tournament victory to his name already this year and confident that the bizarre events of 1991 are behind him.

Rafferty, without a win for 16 months, captured the Palm Meadows Cup in Australia with a final round of 65 ten days ago. He earned £105,000 — the biggest cheque of his career — although the success meant more to him than the financial gain, because it should persuade the golfing public that he is back on track.

When Rafferty rose to the top of the Volvo Order of Merit in 1989, it seemed that he was on the threshold of becoming the next standard-bearer for British golf. The Irishman possessed a well-oiled swing and a hint of arrogance that all champions require.

Last year, his form deteriorated as he was overtaken by personal problems, which culminated in an episode that embarrassed the PGA European Tour, and also suffered illness and injury. In June, he walked out of the US Open after nine holes of the second round without offering an explanation, for which he was fined £5,000.

"My own verdict on that is misadventure," Rafferty said. "I was in a predicament because of the health of my wife, Clare, who was expecting a baby. Looking back, if I had stuck my head in a tent and said 'Look, I'm going' then nobody would have batted an eyelid. Because I didn't, then all hell broke out.

"It was personally a very good learning experience, and if the worse thing I do in my career is make an elementary error like that, then I'll be happy to live with it. The Tour did what they saw fit, fined me and nothing more has been said. I paid the penalty for making a wrong decision and I'm happy to live with that."

Rafferty, however, feels the low point of 1991 was in the Open Championship, when he stood on the first tee for the opening round then once again turned to his playing partners to make his apologies. "I couldn't take the club back," he said.

The problem was a torn muscle in his left shoulder. Rafferty had resorted to having a cortisone injection, which he now regrets, and he requested another at Royal Birkdale. "But the doctor basically said 'What's the point?', and rightly so," he said.

"I had practised on the range and I still thought I would give it a go. I was applauded on to the first tee and then I realised I couldn't do it. If I could have played one-handed, I would have done. It came as a shock the next day to be told that I could forget about playing for a few weeks."

It completed a disruptive two months in his career. In May, he withdrew from the Volvo PGA Championship following a severe attack of gastro-enteritis that caused him to lose 14lbs in 24 hours. "It was a tough time and, after the US Open episode, some rather vicious things were said about me. I was made out to be a nasty person. I wouldn't like to think that is the case. There simply are times when you don't feel like communicating. To some people, it might seem I'm rude at times, but I don't mean to be.

"The truth is that I am very critical of my own style of play. If I'm not getting 100 per cent out of my game, but I am trying 100 per cent, then that is okay. It matters to me that, even if I do shoot a 75, I can walk off the course and say I tried."

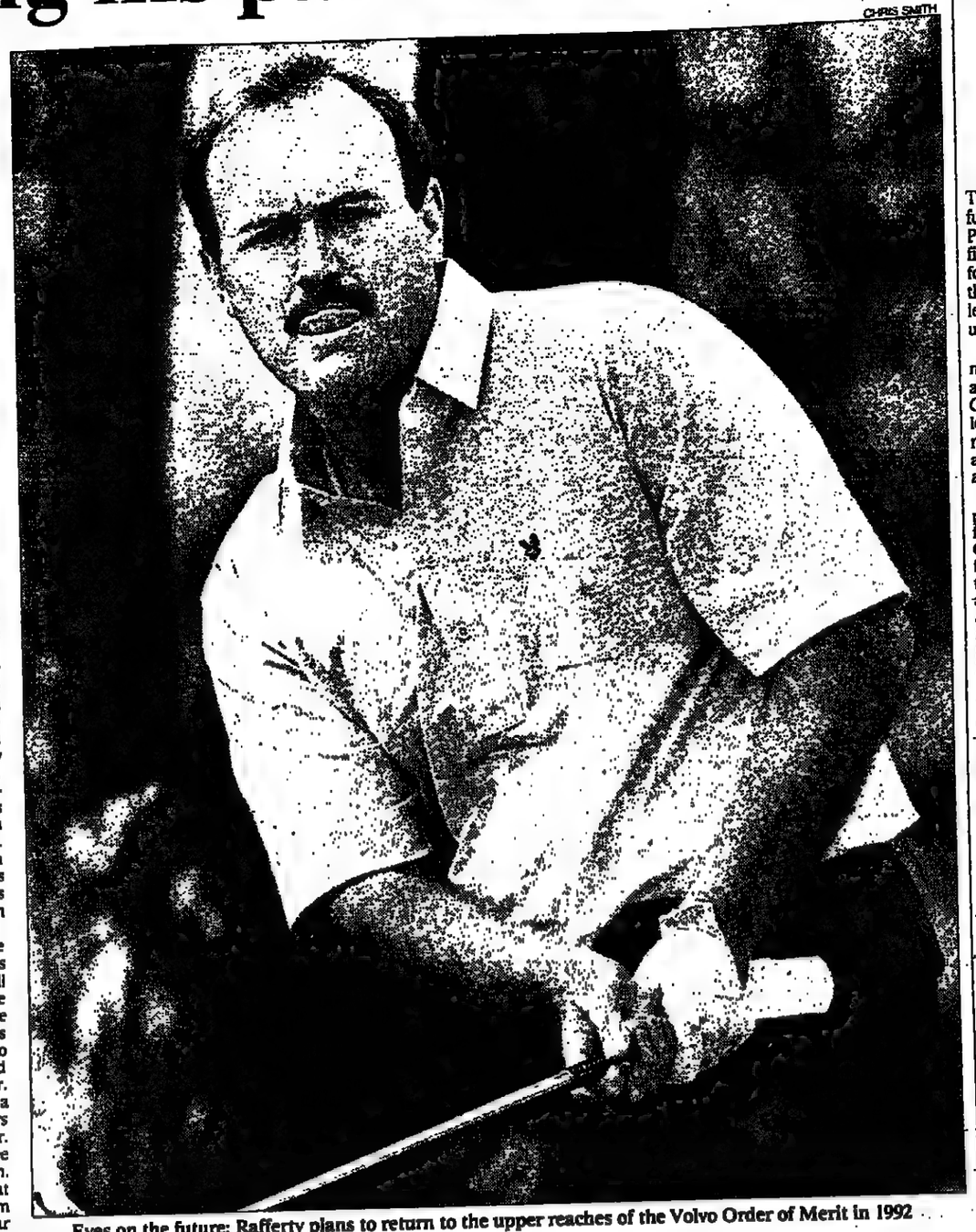
Rafferty is his own man. He considers himself something of a wine buff. If, like good wine, he has matured, then that will be good for him and good for the European game. He has much to offer, having only recently celebrated his 28th birthday, with 12 professional wins already. Nick Faldo had won the same number at that age.

"I obviously want to play as well as I can, and there is nothing like winning," he said. "But it's not life or death if I win or, for that matter, if I make the Ryder Cup team. Of course we all want to win one of the four major championships, but the margin between success and failure is very slim.

"Last July, I had dinner with Ian Baker-Finch on the Monday night. We ate fish and chips together on Tuesday night. I had dinner with him again on Wednesday night. We practised together, we spoke about the Championship together. Four days later, he was Open champion and I hadn't got to hit a shot. That's how it can go. But Ian is a good friend, so I was as delighted for him as he was for me when I was No. 1 in Europe in 1989.

"But I had to learn to cope with being No. 1 and it was not always easy for me. It is all a vicious circle. When you are grinding your way up, the stairs seem far apart, but as you get higher and higher, so they get closer and closer and it gets easier and easier. Then, when you go on a downward spiral, the stairs become slippier and slippier. You can actually never see yourself playing well again. But I've come out of that downward spiral and I'm looking forward to the year ahead."

CHRIS SMITH



Eyes on the future: Rafferty plans to return to the upper reaches of the Volvo Order of Merit in 1992

SQUASH RACKETS

Wizards cruise further ahead

By Colin McQuillan

THE Welsh Wizards eased a further point ahead in the Pimm's Premier League by fielding a full-strength team for the first return fixture of the season while others in the leadership race were calling up ageing reserves.

The Cardiff squad took maximum points at home against Lynic Surbiton, with Chris Robertson, of Australia, leading Peter Marshall, the new British champion, Adrian Davies, the Welsh No. 1, and Paul Carter.

Vasari Cannons, the champions, were strengthened at first string by the return of Chris Dittmar but were forced to call up Neil Harvey, their 32-year-old team manager, at fourth string against Adidas Northern in Manchester. Harvey lost 9-7, 5-9, 2-9, 9-5, 9-2 to Derek Ryan, the Irish No. 1.

A similar fate befell Philip Kenyon, the former British champion, aged 35, on his first appearance at fourth string for L and P Lambs against North Walsham in Norfolk. Mark Allen, aged 20, took the only home point 9-6, 9-6, 5-9, 9-4.

The Wizards were not without their own problems. Robert Edwards, their team manager, gave the pre-match talk from a wheelchair after training with his notoriously enduring squad. "Now I know how the opposition feels," he said.

In Essex, newly promoted A and P Rackets moved into fifth place — three points ahead of North Walsham — with another of the countback wins for which they are becoming renowned.

Robert Graham and Darren Webb recorded comprehensive victories over Jason Nicolle and John Ransome — both quarter-finalists in the national championships this month — to ensure a 2-2 draw with a full-strength Mosaic Priory.

RESULTS: Leslies Wizards 4, Lynic Surbiton 0; Adidas Northern 1, Vasari Cannons 3; North Walsham 1, L and P Lambs 3; A and P Rackets 2, Mosaic Priory 2. Positions: 1, Wizards, 40pts; 2, Cannons, 39; 3, Lambs, 37; 4, Priory, 31; 5, Rackets, 18; 6, North Walsham, 15; 7, Northern, 9; 8, Surbiton, 6.

Senior rugby union clubs recommend changes to move the championship towards a home-and-away format

Brewery injects cash at Richmond

RICHMOND, once one of England's elite but now languishing in the third division of the Courage Clubs Championship, announced yesterday a three-year sponsorship which reflects the upbeat mood at the Athletic Ground (David Hands writes).

The agreement, worth £85,000, is with Castle Beer, a product of South African Breweries. Richmond, who plan to tour South Africa in August 1993, believe they are the first English side to receive sponsorship from the republic.

There is a long-standing playing connection between Richmond and South Africa. The club is affiliated with Villagers, the famous Cape Town club, and Durban Collegians, and believes the deal merely anticipates the re-integration of South Africa into world rugby.

"A club such as our's seeks a higher profile and to do that you need cash," Tony Hallett, the Richmond chairman, said. "We are delighted to have made this connection and we hope to see the South African national side at Twickenham in the early part of next season."

By that time, Richmond hope to have achieved promotion to the second division after what Hallett describes as a season of re-grouping. They stand alongside Fylde and Exeter at the top of the third division and the value of such a sponsorship will leave them in a position to enhance their facilities and become a more attractive option for players in the capital.

Kevin Boroevich, the former New Zealand prop who captains Richmond, is optimistic about the prospect of promotion. Boroevich is with the club for two seasons, and may stay longer, and, having spent an initial period tightening the nuts and bolts of Richmond's forward play, he sees the next league match, against Clifton on February 29, as the important hurdle.

☐ David Egerton, the former England No. 8, plays his first senior game of the season for Bath at Coventry on Saturday. Egerton has recovered from a shoulder injury and is joined in the side by Jonathan Callard, who is fit once more after damaging a knee during the divisional championship in October.

Ten-club divisions suggested

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE Senior Clubs Association (SCA) executive committee has recommended the acceptance of ten-club national divisions in the Courage Clubs' Championship, as a preliminary to the home-and-away championship programme proposed for 1993-4.

Their decision, taken last week, is particularly apposite now that bad weather has affected the cup and league programme. The SCA agreed initially that they should urge a home-and-away programme with 13-club divisions, which was always going to leave virtually no room for manoeuvre in the structured season of the Rugby Football Union (RFU).

At their last meeting, the SCA committee considered arguments put forward by the RFU for ten, as opposed to 13, clubs. Broadly speaking, those arguments found favour — indeed several first-division clubs have always favoured smaller divisions — and a recommendation has now been circularised to member clubs, asking for replies by Tuesday, two days before the next meeting of the RFU competitions sub-committee.

There can be little doubt that last weekend's postponement of seven out of eight Pilkington Cup matches focused attention on how easily the season may be thrown out of gear by bad weather. There has been informal discussion in Wales, too, as to whether they are right to be preparing next season to increase the Heineken League from ten to 12-club divisions, and though no official proposal has been debated by the league management committee, it appears that the arguments (mainly financial) for bigger divisions may come under fire.

The most radical suggestion for the Courage championship has been for a first division of eight clubs, but ten seems more likely to win general acceptance. That would leave sufficient weekends for international, divisional and cup rugby, as well as incoming tours — but only just.

The RFU competitions sub-committee is also pondering an appeal by Abbey for reinstatement to the Berkshire Cup, whose quarter-finals are due on Sunday. Abbey were beaten 13-6 by Maidenhead in the last round, only for Maidenhead to be disqualified by Berkshire for having fielded an ineligible player, Charlie Colclough.

The debate arises because, according to the county's cup regulations, Colclough, an Australian who scored nine of his side's points in the cup tie, was eligible. However, since this was also a qualifying match for the Pilkington Cup, national knock-out competition regulations apply, under which Colclough was two weeks short of the appropriate eligibility period.

Maidenhead appealed to the RFU, which is entitled to exercise discretion in qualifying matches for the national competition, and John Jeavons-Fellows, chairman of the competitions sub-committee, said: "The county cup is a Pilkington qualifier, but it's first and foremost a county tournament and they weren't in breach of their own regulations.

"We thought the decision to disqualify was over-harsh so they are back in." He rejected any comparison with the situation which arose in November when Bath had a league point deducted for fielding an ineligible player in a match against London Irish.

Tricky decision for All Black centre

By Peter Bills

RUGBY may lose the services of their New Zealand centre, Walter Little, aged 22, after he has played only one senior match for them. Little, the North Harbour centre, may be forced to return home early next month because of the pre-season training requirements of the new All Black coaching regime.

Little, who joined Rugby immediately after the World Cup, had planned to stay until near the end of March and play in four league games. Now, unless he can gain special dispensation, he will have to leave after the home match against Bath on Saturday week.

The club captain, Steve Brain, said that the club had invested much time and effort in recruiting the player and were trying to persuade him to keep to his original plans.

"We are talking earnestly to Walter about this and hope to hear something positive quite soon," Brain said.

"We obviously hope he can delay his return. But the change of coaching regime in New Zealand has made it difficult."

Rugby concede that they have been angered and frustrated that one of the world's outstanding centres has been kicking his heels since the start of November under the 12-week qualification rule.

"We regard it as quite out of order that the World Cup players who stayed on were not able to qualify until after the World Cup. They were in the country before the end of September yet we were told that kind of residence did not count," Brain said.

Little: under pressure

Counties plan for a revival

By Michael Austin

THE 27 constituent bodies forming the ADT County Championship are pressing the Rugby Football Union (RFU) to revive the competition which has declined in importance since the introduction of league, cup and divisional matches.

Representatives from 22 counties met at the Barkers' Butts club, near Coventry, to formulate a confidential plan to be put to the RFU, and the prime movers in attempting to upgrade the competition included Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Middlesex and Warwickshire.

Jim Bambrick, secretary of Warwickshire and the newly-formed English Counties Association, said yesterday: "I do not want to divulge what was said at our meeting, but we discussed the county championship and many other aspects of the game.

"The response was encouraging and we shall be writing to Dudley Wood. As secretary of the RFU, he should be the first to know of our conclusions. They have a meeting at Twickenham on Friday and we hope to have some input."

Some county representatives believe that the present structure of the English game has been dictated by leading clubs. But Bambrick contends: "The counties have much to offer. They provide the people who run the game from schools level upwards and make a tremendous contribution."

CYCLING

S Africans return to Milk Race

By Peter Bryan

SOUTH African riders return to Britain this year for the first time since 1960 as one of the 18 national teams competing in the 1,150-mile Milk Race. Their entry of a six-man amateur team was confirmed yesterday.

Ian Emmerson, president of the British Cycling Federation, who spent three weeks in South Africa last autumn, described the country's racing as "vibrant" after seeing their riders compete against British, German and Italian squads in the Rapport Tour.

Algeria is also among the 11 to have accepted and will be the first Arab nation to compete in the race, which starts from Land's End on May 24 and finishes in Lincoln on June 6. Algeria won the road race and team time-trial events in the all-African Games last year.

Olympic year has encouraged a quality entry although four places are being kept for professional teams. The final line-up will also include Australia and New Zealand.

There will be two Britain teams, which include four riders based in France — Simeon Hempsall, Ian Gilkes, Matthew Stephens and David Cook.

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Time to review all aspects of the funding of sport

By Tom Pendry
Chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party sports committee

THE parliamentary debate on a national lottery provided a welcome opportunity to MPs to discuss the financing of sport. Unfortunately, such discussion has tended to focus solely on the lottery itself and has not widened to encompass the whole structure of sports funding. It is time that changed.

For while the possibility of a lottery, in its right form and context, is a measure which could do great things to aid British sport, it is vital that if it is introduced, it fits in with existing aspects of funding and employment within the industries which it is designed to help.

Sport has suffered since 1979 because isolated, and often contradictory, measures have been applied like sticking plaster over the financial wounds inflicted on it through government neglect. That is why, in its *Charter for Sport*, Labour has promised to set up a major review of all aspects of sports finance — of which the possibility of a lottery will form a crucial part — to sort out the mess in which sports funding is now to be found.

The inability of the sports minister, Robert Atkins, to secure the resources to make his proposals credible has created chaos. For example, in a recent parliamentary answer, Atkins admitted that in proposing to establish a new United Kingdom Sports Commission and English Sports Council — each with separate offices and staff — he has failed to secure a single penny extra to fund them. Nor had he any idea of the size or location of offices that would be required. Thus the shambles continues.

Of course, the fault does not lie solely with the minister. I have in the past also criticised the football pools companies, which might be affected by a lottery, for the way in which they have operated to stifle debate on funding for sport. In particular, the Football Trust, which has achieved many good things in football, has I believe sometimes failed to act in as flexible a fashion as is needed to meet the changing needs of the modern game.

For example, the Trust opposed my proposal for a Football Levy Board, even though it was one of the main proposals of Lord Rothschild's Royal Commission on Gambling in 1977. Nevertheless, I still believe that some form of levy, combined with the Trust to make it a more accountable and effective catalyst for the development of football, can be achieved, given some forward thinking on behalf of the trust.

I was especially critical of the way in which, nine days prior to the last Budget, a deal was cobbled together by the largest pools company and the Treasury to stave off a national lottery and instead establish the Foundation for Sport and the Arts, whereby money generated by football is being given to other sports and the arts. And this at a time when football is crying out for funds to help implement the Taylor Report.

I can recognise that the pools companies may have fears for the jobs they provide, but these are matters which can be addressed as part of a complete overhaul of sports funding.

In the meantime, I still maintain that the Foundation will fail to get to the root of the crisis facing sport. But even given these reservations, I believe that the Foundation should form part of the major review of sports finance which Labour has promised.

Following the review, there should be a government green paper with appropriate opportunity given for the whole of British sport to comment on its proposals. This should be followed by a comprehensive government white paper, setting out an effective strategy and framework for setting sport, once and for all, on a firm financial footing.

By all means consider a national lottery, but let us recognise also the wider structure for funding sport. Sport has suffered for far too long to afford further mishaps. If we are to go down the road of a lottery, then we had better get it right.

Martini Executive can supplement Lingfield victory

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

MARTINI Executive, backed to 7-1 from 20-1 before winning by five lengths at Lingfield last Saturday, makes a quick reappearance at Southwell today when he carries a 7lb penalty in the Mansfield Handicap.

The gamble on Saturday was similar to the one which also succeeded when he made his racecourse debut at Southwell in 1990. On that occasion he was backed to 5-1 from 20-1 before winning a seller by seven lengths. Later that season Martini Executive put up a superior performance when he beat the useful Doublova to win a nursery at Ripon.

Apart from finishing third once last year, Martini Executive had been disappointing until last Saturday. Explaining the return to form, Hambleton trainer William Pearce said that Martini Executive had lost his way because he was repeatedly breaking blood vessels. Pearce found the cure while browsing through an American bloodstock magazine.

It is Haemaguard, a vitamin and herbal medication which has been used with success in New York state which, unusually in American racing, is medication free. Martini Executive had been working so much better at home since he had been on Haemaguard, which does not show up in drug tests, that his connections decided to have a tilt at the betting ring, with spectacular results.

While they will have to make do with more cramped odds this time, they should still collect again because an additional 7lb looks reasonable in my view judged on the way in which he beat the in-form El Volador at Lingfield.

Palacegate King and **Pop To Stans**, who were involved in a stirring finish here 12 days ago, meet again in the Staythorpe Claiming Stakes. On that occasion Pop To Stans was beaten a neck, but on 2lb better terms he can give trainer David Barron and jockey Alex Greaves a second consecutive win in this race following Pesidanamich last year.

Pearce: brought Martini Executive back to form

Hand On Heart, a lightly-raced filly from the Newmarket stable of William Haggas, can repeat her victory over the course and distance 12 days ago by landing the Averham Handicap.

On the National Hunt front at Windsor, **Halkopous** is napped to win the Burnham Novices' Hurdle. On the Flat this Mark Tompkins-trained six-year-old was gifted enough to win the Magnet Cup at York last summer and the BBC *Trainer* Handicap at Newbury by five lengths from the smart Song Of Sixpence.

When he won his first race over hurdles at Wolverhampton earlier this month, Halkopous recorded a time five seconds faster than that of Jenny Pitman's Obie's Train in winning another division.

While times of races may not mean as much jumping as they do on the Flat, it is not surprising that Mrs Pitman decided against taking on Halkopous here with Obie's Train.

Copper Mine, another recent easy winner on that same Midlands track, is taken to win the Brocas National Hunt Novices' Hurdle, while there is a clear form line through Keep Talking that suggests that **Banker's Gossip** can beat Country Member in the Oakside Novices' Chase.

Question of VAT is election issue

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE VAT threat to Britain's bloodstock industry is likely to develop into a party political issue in the approach to the general election.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats have been asked this week define their policy and views on the 17.5 per cent tax rate which threatens breeders' commerical future.

Although Ireland and France will have VAT rates of 2.3 and 5.5 per cent respectively when the single market comes into force next year, the British government is preventing domestic breeders competing on level terms by resisting demands to cut the 17.5 per cent level of tax.

Sir Adam Butler, chairman of the horse and pony taxation committee and a former Tory minister, has sent a questionnaire to Dr John Marek, Labour front bench taxation spokesman, and Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrats' Treasury spokesman.

Marek, briefed by Lord Hartington, senior steward of the Jockey Club, is sympathetic to the problems of British breeders and intends to discuss the problem with John Smith, the shadow chancellor, before outlining Labour's stance.

The party political approach adopted by the bloodstock industry reflects the growing sense of frustration with the government's attitude and lack of realistic measures. Mrs Gillian Shepherd, a junior Treasury minister, has offered an agricultural flat rate scheme, but few industry experts are confident it will work by itself.

Sir Adam has asked opposition spokesmen if they would maintain the 17.5 per cent VAT rate on horses and ponies? Reduce it to ensure fair competition and, if so, to what level? Seek to harmonise rates throughout the Community? If so, how, and at what level?

The European Commission had accepted Ireland's low rate as legal and was expected to approve France's tax level. Sir Adam said: "We understand it would also be permissible for the United Kingdom to have a similar 'agricultural' level of VAT, to include the breeding, rearing and care of horses, of not less than 5 per cent. However, this runs contrary to Treasury policy of only two rates."

He added: "Fair competition is a fundamental of the single market, all governments support the principle. Yet it looks as if the UK industry may be denied it. Without fair competition the breeding industry in this country will be crippled."

Carvill's Hill runs in Ireland

BY MICHAEL SEELY

CARVILL'S Hill, the 2-1 favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup, will have his final race before the National Hunt Festival in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Leopardstown on Sunday, February 16.

Paul Green, the majority shareholder in the Martin Pipe-trained 10-year-old, said yesterday: "My partners and I are delighted that the horse is going back to Ireland. The timing of the race, just under a month before Cheltenham, is perfect. The only proviso is that he won't run if the ground is firm."

Green has recently bought a four-year-old full-brother to Carvill's Hill called Archer for 1r665,000. "I bought him from Jim Dreaper, who plans to run him in a bumper at a novice hurdle in the spring. After that he will be sent to Martin Pipe because there are more opportunities in England," he said.

Morley Street has been installed favourite at 5-4 on by P J Hennessy for the Paschal Butler Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown on Saturday. The Dublin bookmakers then go 3-1 Destriero, 8-1 Ruling and 12-1 Royal Derbi.

Confirming his intention to send the reigning champion to Ireland in preference to Sandown's Agfa Hurdle on the same afternoon, Toby Balding said: There are several reasons for wanting to go to Ireland. The ground is likely to be better, the track's left-handed, they all meet at level weights and it's worth four times as much money."

With Jimmy Frost required for Morley Street, Balding has booked Richard Guest for the disappointing Forest Sun in the Agfa Hurdle. "He's got to run there as he gets up to 15lb from the other good horses."

Frost tightens its grip

FROST continues to take its toll on racing. The meeting scheduled for Nottingham today was called off yesterday because the track was frozen, although hopes are high at Windsor that racing will take place this afternoon.

However, the prospects for tomorrow's two turf meetings at Towcester and Edinburgh are gloomy. The course at Towcester is frozen in parts and with further frost forecast a 12.30 inspection is planned for today. Edinburgh, where the chance of racing is rated no better than 50-50, inspect at noon today.

There is also an inspection at 3pm today for Kelso's fixture on Friday. After several severe frosts there is little hope of a thaw.

RESULTS FROM LINGFIELD PARK

☐ Thunderer was in fine form at Lingfield Park yesterday, selecting five of the six winners. Storm Orphan was a winning nap for Mandarin and Richard Evans.

Going: standard

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, ABSENT RELATIVE (A Maguire, 2-5 fav); 2, Line Drummer (G McCourt, 10-1); 3, Campion Bampi (G Knight, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 12 Glazerne, 16 Pendora's Prize, 20 Michaela Dawn, 25 Cosmic Force (6th), 33 Jerwah (5th), 50 Treacle Mine, 66 Royal Supreme, High Kabour (4th), Joyce's Pet, Blue Topaze, Robins Return. 14 ran. ½l, 20l, 8l, 6l, 4l. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £2.80, £1.30. DF: £5.60. CSF: £6.16.

2.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, CHARLIE'S DARLING (S Keightley, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Smart Endeavor (R Dunwoody, 3-1 jt-fav); 3, Veronica Ann (S Donohoe, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 3 jt-fav Gypsy Trail (5th), 7-2 Striking Distance (6th), 5 Artiste (pu), 33, Prince Valmy, Tender Reach (4th) 8 ran. 5l, 20l, 2l, 12l, 8l. J White at Wendover. Tote: £2.70; £1.10, £1.40, £17.40. DF: £3.40. CSF: £12.76.

2.40 (2m 4f hdle) 1, CAZAUDEHORE (I Lawrence, 11-8 fav); 2, Temporale (R Supple, 4-1); 3, Leading Role (D Gallagher, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Sing The Blues (f), 8 Vision Of Wonder (4th), 6 ran. 12l, 10l, 15l. M Robinson at Wantage. Tote: £2.50; £1.30, £2.20. DF: £4.40. CSF: £6.86.

3.10 (2m hdle) 1, STORM ORPHAN (A Maguire, 11-10 fav; Mandarin & Richard Evans's nap); 2, Yuvraj (P McEntee, 6-1); 3, Shaikh's Pet (S Donohoe, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Gina-Diane (pu), 8 Prismatice (5th), 10 Cone Lane (4th), 33 Spring Forward, Luthier (6th), 50 Rongwheel. 9 ran. ¾l, 7l, 1½l, 6l, 15l. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £2.50; £1.50, £2.00, £11.80. DF: £5.80. CSF: £8.95. Tricast: £139.54.

3.40 (2m 6f hdle) 1, CRABBY BILL (Dale McKeown, 11-4); 2, Abertoyle (A Maguire, 13-2); 3, Oddstone Pear (H Davies, 5-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 The Hill (5th), 15-2 Haky Mac (5th), 25 Kilos (4th), 33 Tufoli (6th). 7 ran. NR: Andrie. 8l, 5l, 6l, hd, 2l. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £4.20; £1.40, £2.30. DF: £4.70. CSF: £16.55.

4.10 (2m hdle) 1, ANTICO NATIVO (A Dicken, 3-1); 2, Eastern Magic (Dale McKeown, 5-1); 3, Deviosity (B Powell, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Golden Gunner, 12 Barsana, 14 Robble Burns, 16 With Guelo (4th), 33 Kalzari (5th), Aqiiq (6th), Saler's Spirit, 66 Wolfgang. 11 ran. NR: French Legionnaire. 8l, 6l, 10l, 1½l, 25l. S Dow at Epsom. Tote: £5.00; £1.60, £2.00, £2.50. DF: £8.70. CSF: £19.54. Tricast: £83.38.

Placepot: £33.80.

Jockeys urge whip review

MICHAEL Caulfield, the secretary of the Jockeys' Association, has written to the Jockey Club urging a review of its decision to increase penalties to riders found guilty of whip misuse.

Under the new instructions, which come into effect from the end of next month, stewards will double the length of whip bans from the present two to four days to between four and seven days.

"Jockeys are unhappy with the prospect a four-day ban for perhaps only a small riding error," Caulfield said.

☐ Gina-Diane, attempting a five-timer at Lingfield Park in the Asquith Conditional Jockeys' Handicap Hurdle yesterday, broke her near-fore knee and had to be destroyed.

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WINDSOR

MANDARIN	THUNDERER	RICHARD EVANS
1.20 Copper Mine.	1.20 Copper Mine.	1.20 Copper Mine.
1.50 Banker's Gossip.	1.50 Country Member.	2.50 CLEVER SHEPHERD.
2.20 Bighayir.	2.20 West Monkton.	SHEPHERD (nap).
2.50 Clever Shepherd.	2.50 Team Challenge.	3.50 Dan Marino.
3.20 HALKOPOUS (nap).	3.20 Halkopous.	
3.50 Dan Marino.	3.50 Dan Marino	
4.20 Kibreet.	4.20 Kibreet.	

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.50 DAN MARINO.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN STRAIGHT ON CHASE COURSE) SIS

1.20 BROCAS NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£1,235: 2m 30yd) (21 runners)

1 33-21 COPPER MINE 34 (D,G) (J Dougall) O Sherwood 6-11-12 ... J Osborne 89
2 CLEVER ARTIST (J Vail) P Hobbs 5-11-5 ... Peter Hobbs —
3 R4-0P00 FAVOURED VICTOR 34 (B) (A Kerr) K Morgan 5-11-5 ... A S Smith —
4 P4P FEARLESS FRED 6 (D Fisher) Mrs J Retter 5-11-5 ... M A Fitzgerald (5) 80
5 0 FRONT STREET 39 (Mrs J Bishop) D Grissell 5-11-5 ... H Davies —
6 00 ICE GOLD 41 (Mrs S Robins) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-5 ... M Pitman 73
7 1-032 INTERPRETATION 29 (F) (Mrs J Henderson) N Henderson 6-11-5 ... J Kavanagh ● 99
8 04 JIMMY THE GILLIE 30 (N Robinson) S Christian 6-11-5 ... G McCourt 90
9 0 MARINE ICES 30 (Mrs P Glenn) J Chugg 5-11-5 ... W Humphreys —
10 3-03 NOBLE INSIGHT 23 (Insight Carions Ltd) M Pipe 5-11-5 ... — 76
11 0/P//U BACKHERORBUST 6 (Miss K George) D Williams 9-11-0 ... V Smith —
12 00/P/0- BRYANSBI 449 (G Sheakey) M McCourt 8-11-0 ... G Bradley —
13 0-00 BUSTLING AROUND 16 (J Long) J Bosley 5-11-0 ... M Bosley —
14 5 CHARLOTTES DELIGHT 20 (G Dedman) Miss B Sanders 7-11-0 ... Dale McKeown —
15 00- CHILLY DAY 278 (H Horley) Miss C Horler 8-11-0 ... G Upton —
16 21/2-P0 CROGHAN ROSE 18 (F) (R Bowen) G Harwood 7-11-0 ... M Perrett —
17 40-6 IRISH ORCHID 16 (Mrs J Burridge) S Sherwood 6-11-0 ... M Richards —
18 22-250 MANENDA 20 (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 5-11-0 ... R Dunwoody 98
19 00U- SPEY ROYALE 285 (I Anderson) J McConnochie 6-11-0 ... J Pullin (7) —
20 P ACE HILL 71 (K Mcholls) G Ham 4-10-7 ... B Powell —
21 9F CANDLE GLOW 28 (Seven House Partnership) Mrs F Walwyn 4-10-2 ... P Warling (3) —

BETTING: 4-5 Copper Mine, 7-2 Interpretation, 6-1 Noble Insight, 10-1 Manenda, 12-1 Ice Gold, 14-1 others.

1991: THE ANTIPODEAN 7-11-0 P Holley (8-1) D Elsworth 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

COPPER MINE, unchallenged, beat Honey Boy Senna 20l in a 13-runner novice hurdle at Wolverhampton (2m, good). FEARLESS FRED 8¾l 4th of 13 to Mulbank in a novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 110yd, good to firm). ICE GOLD 38l 9th of 18 to Triple Witching in a novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft), with CROGHAN ROSE tailed off when pulled up 2 out. INTERPRETATION 5l 2nd of 15 to Chefold Copse in a novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m, good). Previously, 8l 3rd of 12 to Sandal in a novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 100yd, good to firm), with FAVOURED VICTOR a distant 11th. MY THE GILLIE 23½l 4th of 9 to Dextra Dove in a novice hurdle Warwick (2m, good to firm), with BUSTLING AROUND tailed-off 9th. NOBLE INSIGHT 15l 3rd of 11 to Hangover in a novice hurdle Wolverhampton (2m, good). IRISH ORCHID, half-sister to Desert Orchid, 23½l 8th of 15 to Bratton Lane in a novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good to soft), with BUSTLING AROUND 8th and CROGHAN ROSE and 11th. MANENDA's best effort was when 5l 2nd of 16 to Bas De Laine in a novice hurdle at Newbury (2m 100yd, good).
Selection: COPPER MINE

1.50 OAKSIDE NOVICES CHASE (£2,136: 3m) (15 runners)

1 00-4212 BANKER'S GOSSIP 11 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Sutton) D Nicholson 8-11-12 ... R Dunwoody ● 98
2 20U-12F COUNTRY MEMBER 30 (G) (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 7-11-12 ... L Harvey 87
3 4/006-P0 ADAMS IMPRINT 32 (F) (D Lowe) Mrs G Jones 9-11-6 ... Martin Jones 76
4 4-45000 BOLD REPUBLIC 9 (B,S) (C Shankland) C Coyne 6-11-6 ... H Davies —
5 R6//PU-P BRANDON PIER 16 (F) (G Greenwood) T Casey 9-11-6 ... M Lynch —
6 3123-42 CATCHAPENNY 68 (S) (C Courage) M Wilkinson 7-11-6 ... B Powell 92
7 34-03F2 DISCO DUKE 14 (F) (Mrs S Weaver) A Moore 7-11-6 ... G Moore 87
8 0/P/F HAMMER 22 (R Hamilton) P Hobbs 7-11-6 ... S Earle —
9 0/U4-4F0 MARMITE SOLDIER 14 (Mrs N Golfe) Mrs N Golfe 9-11-6 ... Peter Hobbs 82
10 2034U6 MR DORMOUSE 14 (G) (Mrs M Smith) I Balding 6-11-6 ... J Frost 70
11 0026F-0 MR GEE 14 (J Gale) R Curtis 7-11-6 ... D Morris 96
12 /PP2F/U NORHAM CASTLE 11 (R Ledger) R Ledger 9-11-6 ... Mrs M Ledger —
13 54-PFP5 RYTON GUARD 30 (Mrs A Ireland) S Christian 7-11-6 ... G McCourt 88
14 330/2-4U SUNSET AGAIN 23 (F) (J Hooper) G Balding 7-11-6 ... R Guest 89
15 PF- ZIMMERMAN 303 (M Branson) W Farrin 7-11-6 ... S Curran (7) —

BETTING: 11-8 Banker's Gossip, 3-1 Country Member, 4-1 Sunset Again, 6-1 Catchapenny, 12-1 others.

1991: THE MILROY 8-11-11 J Osborne (6-4 fav) O Sherwood 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

BANKER'S GOSSIP 7l 2nd of 3 to Keep Talking in a novice chase at Kempton (3m, good to firm). Previously, beat Otterburn House 2l in a 5-runner novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to firm). COUNTRY MEMBER 12l 2nd of 8 to Keep Talking in a novice chase at Newbury (2m 4f, good). Previously, easily beat Bel Course 21½l in a 10-runner novice chase at Worcester (2m 4f, good). CATCHAPENNY 3½l 2nd of 6 to Taco in a novice chase at Leicester (3m, good to firm). DISCO DUKE 10l 2nd of 11 to Cajar in novice handicap chase, over course and distance (good to firm), with MR GEE (12lb better off) 32l 8th. RYTON GUARD 8l 3rd of 9 to The Tartan Spartan in a novice handicap chase at Warwick (3m 1f, good to firm). SUNSET AGAIN 2l 3rd of 10 to Webbs Wonder in a novice handicap chase at Fontwell (2m 2f, good).
Selection: COUNTRY MEMBER

2.20 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,637: 2m 6f) (22 runners)

1 2241 BIGHAYIR 28 (B,F) (A Lomas) M Pipe 5-11-12 ... — 92
2 0003/3- BERYL'S JOKE 447 (B) (Mrs E Heywood) J Bower 8-11-8 ... N McFarlane 84
3 1016 SUPER RITCHART 8 (G) (R Edwards & S Williams) B Palling 4-11-5 ... C Evans 80
4 2/6-023F RIVERTINO 29 (R Cheetham) P Mitchell 8-11-2 ... D Murphy 91
5 P2-341 POACHER'S DELIGHT 55 (G) (Mrs L Bertram) Mrs S Williams 6-11-1 ... D Richmond (7) 68
6 002104 CAINSBRIDGE QUEEN 20 (D,F,S) (A Kerr) Mrs G Jones 7-11-1 ... P Ward (7) 61
7 3P-0012 CHEEKY FOX 55 (V,G) (J Westley) J Bosley 6-10-13 ... M Bosley 88
8 251P32 STAUNCH RIVAL 14 (G) (C Humphry) G Thorner 5-10-12 ... D Bridgwater (3) 89
9 141582 REVE EN ROSE 13 (F,G) (M McMillan) M McMillan 6-10-12 ... G McCourt ● 99
10 00-65 WEST MONKTON 58 (G Becola) T Forster 6-10-11 ... J Railton 82
11 1332 BALLYSTATE 28 (G) (J Gaisford) C James 4-10-5 ... G Upton 91
12 50-4000 BOLD IMP 20 (G) (J Heritage) A Barrow 7-10-4 ... W Irvine 98
13 0P-60 BARLEY OATS 32 (Broadlease Farm Partnership) S Sherwood 6-10-3 ... A S Smith —
14 000P6 FLING IN SPRING 22 (Major H Porter) J McConnochie 6-10-0 ... J Pullin (7) 82
15 U-95350 UPHAM VIEW 14 (R Brinkworth) D Gandolfo 7-10-0 ... B Powell 98
16 0-0008 WISEBOW 8 (Wisebow Ltd) C Weedon 7-10-0 ... R Guest 79
17 0505-P0 BEN THE BOMBER 56 (D Davies) J Edwards 7-10-0 ... Judy Davies (7) 89
18 3166 TOP IT ALL 8F (G) (M Ryan) M Ryan 4-10-0 ... J Ryan (3) 82
19 9P242P SUNDAY JIM 75 (BF) (H Webb) H Webb 8-10-0 ... G Meade (7) 87
20 0/00P-6 CASTLE ORCHARD 12 (R Adrokwal) P Hayward 8-10-0 ... S McNeill 74
21 605/PPP REAL RETURN 16 (Mrs E Sheehan) D Shaw 7-10-0 ... T Eley (7) —
22 00F-600 LORDY 15 (Mrs L Dreaper) J McConnochie 7-10-0 ... B Dowling —

Long handicap: Upham View 9-13, Wisebow 9-11, Ben The Bomber 9-10, Top It All 9-8, Sunday Jim 9-4, Castle Orchard 9-3, Real Return 9-2, Lordy 9-1.

BETTING: 4-1 Bighayir, 6-1 Poacher's Delight, 7-1 Staunch Rival, 15-2 Reve En Rose, 8-1 Ballystate, West Monkton, 9-1 Cheeky Fox, 10-1 Top It All, 12-1 Rivertino, Super Ritchart, 14-1 others.

1991: BILLY STRAYHORN 7-10-9 M Perrett (3-1 fav) S Mellor 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

BIGHAYIR beat Knight In Side 1½l in a novice handicap hurdle at Devon (2m 1f, good to firm), with STAUNCH RIVAL (1lb better off) 2l 3rd and BOLD IMP a distant 9th. SUPER RITCHART was a distant 6th of 9 to Beebob in a novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m, good to soft). Previously, beat Lulai's Brave Boy 2l in a 17-runner novice hurdle at Leicester (2m, good). POACHER'S DELIGHT beat CHEEKY FOX (5lb better off) 6l in a 14-runner novice handicap hurdle at Taunton (3m, good), with BEN THE BOMBER tailed-off 11th. CAINSBRIDGE QUEEN 14½l 4th of 18 to Jedich in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft), with UPHAM VIEW (9lb better off) 16l 5th and BOLD IMP tailed-off 8th. REVE EN ROSE 1l 2nd of 14 to Knight In Side in a novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 110yd, good to firm). BALLYSTATE 3½l 2nd of 15 to Fight To Win ins novice hurdle at Devon (2m 1f, good to firm). Previously, 14l 3rd of 18 to Duke Of Monmouth in a novice hurdle at Hereford (2m, good to soft). TOP IT ALL beat Alton Bay 1½l in a 10-runner novice hurdle at Fakenham (2m, good). SUNDAY JIM 2½l 2nd of 10 to Keep Out Of Debt in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to firm).
Selection: POACHER'S DELIGHT

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
N Henderson	9	31	29.0	M Pitman	7	22	31.8
O Sherwood	8	29	27.6	P Holley	4	18	22.2
Mrs J Pitman	10	42	23.8	J Osborne	8	44	18.2
J Edwards	6	26	23.1	M Richards	9	60	15.0
P Hedger	7	32	21.9	L Harvey	4	27	14.8
R Alexhurst	8	40	20.0	P Scudamore	3	21	14.3

SOUTHWELL

MANDARIN	THUNDERER
1.40 Ever So Lonely.	1.40 Palacegate Racing.
2.10 Sharp Top.	2.10 Lord Advocate.
2.40 Pop To Stans.	2.40 Palacegate King.
3.10 Hand On Heart.	3.10 Hand On Heart.
3.40 Martini Executive.	3.40 Martini Executive.
4.10 Vuchterbacher.	4.10 VUCHTERBACHER (nap).

GOING: STANDARD SIS

1.40 FISKERTON CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,265: 5f) (10 runners)

1 (10) 22551-1 CRECHE 18 (B,CD) (Mrs N Macauley) Mrs N Macauley 8-5 ... N Day 81
2 (9) 21260-3 IT'S ONLY MONEY 12 (B,D,BF,S) (T Caldwell) T Caldwell 9-0 ... M Wood 76
3 (1) 2012-31 PALACEGATE RACING 14 (C,G) (Palacegate Corporation Ltd) J Berry 9-0 ... J Carroll 92
4 (8) 0- FIRST GOLD 277 (J Ashby) J Wharton 8-13 ... J Williams —
5 (4) 00- COUNTER BLAST 43 (W Holden) W Holden 8-11 ... Mick Denaro (7) —
6 (2) 0- LAGGARD'S QUEST 105 (Mrs A Broad) C Broad 8-11 ... N Adams —
7 (3) 00- SWALE SIDE 43 (W Barker) Mrs G Reveley 8-9 ... M Hills —
8 (7) 0 CAMINO A RONDA 25 (J Lt) Pat Mitchell 8-6 ... C Hawksley (7) —
9 (6) 12000- EVER SO LONELY 89 (B,D,F) (L Barratt) A Bailey 8-4 ... B Doyle (5) ● 99
10 (5) 00000- GRUBBY 56 (Mrs A Murchy) R Hollinshead 8-1 ... A Garth (7) 60

Long handicap: Upham View 9-13, Wisebow 9-11, Ben The Bomber 9-10, Top It All 9-8, Sunday Jim 9-4, Castle Orchard 9-3, Real Return 9-2, Lordy 9-1.

BETTING: 5-2 Palacegate Racing, 100-30 Creche, 9-2 Ever So Lonely, 6-1 It's Only Money, 8-1 Grubby, 10-1 Swale Side, 12-1 others.

1991: ON THE EDGE 9-2 Alex Greaves (7-4) T Barron 9 ran

2.10 OLLERTON HANDICAP (£2,382: 1m 4f) (17 runners)

1 (2) 400/3 LE TEMERAIRE 14 (D,F) (D Douglas) N Tinkler 6-10-0 ... Kim Tinkler 86
2 (13) 11-1134 HAND PAINTED 6 (CD) (Mrs B Ramsden) C Beever 8-9-10 ... Mick Denaro (7) 95
3 (10) 002060- GREYNON 46 (C) (F Short) J Harris 5-9-4 ... W Cochrane 88
4 (6) 0200-58 CATUNDRA 8 (C) (A Certich) Mrs A Knight 4-9-1 ... D Harrison (7) 73
5 (4) 53400-0 SEARCHING STAR 8 (E) (P Jackson) P Kelleway 4-8-6 ... W Newnes 81
6 (15) 050-198 GIVE ME HOPE 8 (C) (B Owen) R Brazington 4-8-5 ... J Quinn 88
7 (7) 040230- BEDOUIN PRINCE 71 (CD) (Miss J Tootson) C Beever 5-8-4 ... M Hills 93
8 (1) 040000- UNINVITED 289 (Countryside Classics Ltd) J Glover 5-7-13 ... N Carlisle 87
9 (8) 0301-06 LORD ADVOCATE 5 (V) (W Kelly) M Naughton 4-7-13 ... B Doyle (5) 96
10 (5) 500-305 IN TRUTH 14 (D,F,S) (C Dennis) D Chapman 4-7-12 ... S Wood 86
11 (14) 228003- SKINING WOOD 42 (S Moss) A Reid 4-7-12 ... R Fox ● 99
12 (9) 40053-3 SHARP TOP 11 (Malpass Bros Ltd) M Ryan 4-7-11 ... D Biggs (3) 95
13 (17) 030000- CAMDEN KNIGHT 19J (D,G,S) (D Pickles) N Bycroft 7-7-10 ... G Bardwell 98
14 (16) 540054- I'M SPECIAL 33J (V) (A Harrison) A Harrison 4-7-10 ... L Charnock 90
15 (3) 000/0-5 FUSION 19 (F) (F Sharp) R Earnshaw 8-7-10 ... Paul Burke —
16 (11) 002406- SPANISH WHISPER 14J (F) (J Bostock) J Bostock 5-7-8 ... N Adams 91
17 (12) 000-05 RESTLESS NIECE 8 (Endsleigh Sport Agencies Ltd) T Barron 4-7-7 ... J Fanning (3) 92

Long handicap: Restless Niece 7-4.

BETTING: 4-1 Le Temeraire, 9-2 Hand Painted, 6-1 Bedouin Prince, Sharp Top, 8-1 Give Me Hope, Searching Star, 10-1 Greynon, Fusion, 12-1 others.

1991: CRIBELLA 4-9-7 S Perks (20-1) P Calver 11 ran

2.40 STAYTHORPE CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,088: 7f) (5 runners)

1 (2) 405-111 PALACEGATE KING 12 (CD) (Palacegate Corporation Ltd) J Berry 9-9 ... J Carroll 98
2 (3) 330-122 POP TO STANS 12 (C,BF,F) (W Spink) T Barron 9-7 ... Alex Greaves ● 99
3 (4) 020-0 CELLITO 18 (R Meadows) W O'Gorman 9-5 ... Emma O'Gorman (5) 68
4 (5) 4 LIFE'S A BREEZE 14 (Run For Fun Racing Club) M Channon 9-2 ... Lorna Vincent 78
5 (1) 000- FORZA AZZURRI 168 (C Perks) Mrs N Macauley 9-0 ... N Day —

BETTING: 13-8 Pop To Stans, 5-2 Palacegate King, 4-1 Cellito, 5-1 Life's A Breeze, 10-1 Forza Azzurri.

1991: PESIDANAMICH 9-4 Alex Greaves (8-11 fav) T Barron 9 ran

2.50 BOVENEY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,656: 3m) (8 runners)

1 FB-5144 TEAM CHALLENGE 34 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Hitchens) Mrs J Pitman 10-12-0 ... M Pitman 98
2 F4-4541 SKINNHILL 12 (B,D,F,G,S) T Thomson Jones 8-11-10 ... M A Fitzgerald (5) ● 99
3 120112 CLEVER SHEPHERD 44 (D,F,G) (M Lockyer) P Hobbs 7-10-8 ... Peter Hobbs 91
4 0-01P20 SPLITTHEDIFFERENCE 16 (CD,F) (V Barclay) Mrs A Barclay 8-10-5 ... J Osborne 94
5 0515-F0 BOLSHOI BOY 28 (F,G) (P Fastners Ltd) D Nicholson 8-10-4 ... R Dunwoody 82
6 F40F41- BONANZA REBEL 270 (V,F) (S Dunster) C Barwell 10-10-0 ... R Guest 80
7 PPPPP-P UPSTANDING 44 (F) (Miss L Davis) N Davis 10-10-0 ... P Richards 86
8 4341PP- SOLENT LAD 258 (C,F,G,S) (B Stevens) B Stevens 9-10-0 ... M Stevens (7) 76

Long handicap: Bonanza Rebel 9-3, Upstanding 9-2, Solent Lad 9-0.

BETTING: 5-2 Clever Shepherd, 11-4 Team Challenge, 7-2 Skinnhill, 9-2 Bolshoi Boy, 8-1 Bonanza Rebel, 12-1 Splittheddifference, 20-1 others

1991: RONANS BIRTHDAY 9-9-11 C Maude (5-4 fav) P Hobbs 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

TEAM CHALLENGE 14½l 4th of 10 to Third In Line in a handicap chase at Wincanton (3m 1f, good to firm). Earlier, beat Tom Bir 8l in a 7-runner handicap chase at Warwick (3m 1f, good to firm). SKINNHILL beat Height Of Fun 2l in a 3-runner conditional jockey's handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good to firm). CLEVER SHEPHERD 2l 2nd of 11 to Erme Express in a handicap chase at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 100yd, good). Previously, beat Does It Matter 2l in a 4-runner novice chase at Sandown (3m 118yd, good). SPLITTHEDIFFERENCE 5l 2nd of 4 to Brave Defender in handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm). BONANZA REBEL beat Smilmy Bear head in a 17-runner handicap chase at Hereford (3m 1f, good to firm) in May.
Selection: CLEVER SHEPHERD

3.20 BURNHAM NOVICES HURDLE (£1,235: 2m 30yd) (22 runners)

1 01 HALKOPOUS 23 (D,G) (A Christodoulou) M Tompkins 6-11-12 ... P Scudamore ● 99
2 EVERY ONE A GEM 189F (J Daniels) M Dixon 5-11-5 ... T Grantham —
3 INDIAN CHIEF 449F (L Bowman) L Bowman 5-11-5 ... Mr C Gordon —
4 000 INVOCATION 12 (R Kiernan) A Moore 5-11-5 ... G Moore 74
5 0-P0 JUST DAVID 22 (Mrs R Leftwich) N Graham 9-11-5 ... R Guest 78
6 504 MY LAMB 12 (D Thompson) D Elsworth 7-11-5 ... P Holley 98
7 PUSEY STREET BOY 19F (M Wilkins) J Bosley 5-11-5 ... M Bosley —
8 RATIFY 95F (A Yousef & Mrs K Richards) Miss H Knight 5-11-5 ... J Osborne —
9 SAFFAAH 210F (Mrs H Levy) W Muir 5-11-5 ... M Richards —
10 0P ANATROCCOLO 23 (C Horgan) C Horgan 5-11-0 ... H Davies —
11 P0 DANCING LUCY 29 (Woodcote Farm Stud) P Hedger 7-11-0 ... B Dowling —
12 0 LAST DOUBLE 11 (W Tudor) P Hobbs 6-11-0 ... C Maude —
13 6/040 WEAPON EXHIBITION 85 (Mrs S Powell) G Ham 5-11-0 ... B Powell 78
14 5 BENGAL TIGER 12 (A Johnston) J Akehurst 4-10-7 ... Dale McKeown 93
15 PP BREAKERS AHEAD 12 (J Joseph) J Joseph 4-10-7 ... D Skyrme —
16 0 LARK RISE 32 (P Evans) C Weedon 4-10-7 ... Peter Hobbs —
17 0 MONSCOMA 16 (A Davison) A Davison 4-10-7 ... D Gallagher —
18 0 NORTHERN CONQUEROR 16 (G Anthony) T Naughton 4-10-7 ... D Morris —
19 RACE TO TIME 33F (J Falvey) R Akehurst 4-10-7 ... R Dunwoody —
20 0 SMART REBAL 14 (Albert Arms) J Akehurst 4-10-7 ... L Harvey —
21 TOOMUCH TOOSOON 169F (C McMillan) S Christian 4-10-7 ... R Beggan —
22 0 LUCKY NOIRE 55 (Mrs C Harrison) G Harwood 4-10-2 ... M Perrett —

BETTING: 1-3 Halkopous, 8-1 Race To Time, 8-1 My Lamb, 10-1 Ratify, 12-1 Lucky Noire, 16-1 Pusey Street Boy, 20-1 others

1991: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

HALKOPOUS beat Crazy Horse Dancer 15l in a 13-runner novice hurdle at Wolverhampton (2m, good). MY LAMB 9l 4th of 11 to Spinning In a novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to firm), with INVOCATION 43l 8th. WEAPON EXHIBITION 19½l 4th of 18 to Miss Bobby Bennet in a novice hurdle at Stratford (2m, good) on penultimate start. BENGAL TIGER 15¾l 6th of 9 to Hasher in a novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to firm), with BREAKERS AHEAD pulled up. NORTHERN CONQUEROR 33l 8th of 17 to Dancing Paddy in a novice at hurdle Fontwell (2m 2f, good to soft), with MONSCOMA 8l 10th. RATIFY was a useful 1m 2f performer on the Flat

England have Lawrence fit but there is a doubt over Lewis

Seam bowlers expected to dominate second Test

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
AUCKLAND

THE unbeaten home record that New Zealand have jealously guarded since 1979 is now the trigger for desperate measures. They will enter the second Test match against England, at Eden Park tomorrow, with a drastically reshaped team and on a pitch prepared for a positive result.

The last four Tests played in Auckland have been drawn with bat dominating ball. New Zealand have invariably seemed content with such *stagnation, but it is of no use* to them now. Having lost the first game of this short series, and lost it embarrassingly, they are intent on beating England on this ground for the first time in 13 attempts.

When Micky Stewart, the England team manager, inspected the Test pitch yester*day afternoon, he was* intrigued, though not surprised, to find it wet and thickly grassed. The first factor may not prevail tomorrow morning, but the second inevitably will. New Zealand have chosen four seam bowlers in

Pringle: valuable skills

their 12 and are plainly gambling on them settling the match.

"We have got to start believing we can level the series," Martin Crowe, the New Zealand captain, said. "They are our conditions out there, and we must make sure we use them better than England."

The state of the pitch may yet have a bearing on England's final selection, but Graham Gooch, the captain, stresses it will have none on his approach. "You play on what you are given," he said. *"The pitch they have pro*duced is not a concern to me. I go into every game believing it is there to be won and that is how I expect all our players to think."

David Lawrence bowled the equivalent of 15 overs during net practice yesterday, his 28th birthday, and reported no reaction from his side injury by the time he was taken out for a celebration dinner with the entire tour party.

Gooch expects him to be available for selection, but Lawrence is not a certainty to win his fifth cap. "If it is a green, slow seamer, our tactics might be different," Gooch said. This, indeed, might be the rationale for retaining an unchanged side on the basis that Derek Pringle, with his accuracy, and ability to move the ball off the seam, could be a more penetrative weapon than the sheer pace of Lawrence.

An additional complication has arisen with the condition of Chris Lewis, one of two England bowlers to complete the Christchurch victory in discomfort from groin strain. While Phil DeFreitas has recovered well and bowled flat out at practice, Lewis was unable to bowl off more than a few paces. A decision on his fitness may not be made until tomorrow morning, but Eng*land could be reluctant to* take a risk on both Lewis and Lawrence surviving the five days.

If the bowling attack remains open to speculation, England's batting order is settled. Botham will not even come into consideration until the final Test in Wellington, and neither Ramprakash nor Fairbrother has done enough to warrant inclusion.

Concern continues, however, over the frailty which still compromises Graeme Hick's game. Until he improves his back-foot defensive method he will remain susceptible at the highest level and can ex*pect little respite from the* short ball.

As a second spin bowler and a superb all-round fieldsman, Hick's value to the side is immense, quite apart from his batting, and although no one in the hierarchy is blind to his technical problem, he has already proved impressive and popular on his first England tour.

Gooch himself has recently been shorter of time in the middle than any of the batsmen, but two failures hardly constitute a confidence crisis. He said yesterday: "It is a slight concern, but no more. I think my mental approach to batting is as good now as it has ever been. I go in expecting to do well."

Among the local club bowlers summoned to the England net session yester*day was a sharp left-armer,* deliberately arranged as practice against the threat which Murphy Su'a, the Auckland-based Samoan, may pose on his New Zealand debut.

This time last year England were suffering torment against another left-armer in Australia's Bruce Reid, whose 27 wickets in four Tests was the most decisive factor in the Ashes series. No one expects Su'a to perform with Reid's consistent menace just yet, but England are taking no chances.

Su'a may give the New Zealand attack variety. Watson may give it control and Rutherford may inject some class into the batting. It does not, however, look enough to close the gulf between the teams.

Paradise for some visitors

ALTHOUGH several visiting batsman have drunk deeply *from Auckland's well of runs* in recent years, England's batsmen during the same period have found Eden Park some way removed from paradise (Simon Wilde writes).

While Greenidge (213), Javed Miandad (271), Azharuddin (192) and Aravinda de Silva (96 and 123) have cause to remember their last appearances on the ground, England's batsmen have, relatively speaking, missed out on each of their last three visits, dating back to 1977-8. Each time it was a battle of attrition. Each time New Zealand, whose priority has invariably been to avoid defeat, batted first and spent sufficient time at the crease to effectively achieve their objective.

In 1977-8, Geoff Howarth, who scored two centuries in the match, spent 455 minutes over his first hundred; in 1983-4, John Wright, Jeff Crowe and Ian Smith all made three-figure scores; and four years ago, Wright spent almost six hours over another hundred. Although England were able to reply in kind, with long vigils from Clive Radley, Chris Smith and Martyn Moxon respectively, it was hardly cricket to set the pulse racing.

This time, with New Zealand needing to win, things might be a little different.

RESULTS (1929-30 to date): England 3, New Zealand 0, draws 9.
RECORDS: Highest totals: 593-6dec (1974-5); 458-6dec (1983-4). Lowest totals: 222 (1985-6); 26 (1954-5). Highest innings: 336 not out, W R Hammond (1932-3); 130, J G Wright (1983-4). Best bowling: 5-51, A W Greig (1974-5); 6-76, R S Cunis (1970-1).

ENGLAND TOUR AVERAGES

Batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/St
A J Lamb	3	4	2	318	93	159.00	—	4	2
G A Hick	5	5	1	463	129*	92.60	3	1	9
A J Stewart	5	6	2	368	149	92.00	2	1	7
D A Reeve	4	4	3	149	59	74.50	—	1	2
C C Lewis	3	3	1	128	70	64.00	—	1	1
G A Gooch	5	6	1	220	101*	44.00	1	1	3
R C Russell	5	4	0	143	57	35.75	—	2	17/1
R A Smith	5	6	0	167	56	27.83	—	1	6
N H Fairbrother	2	2	1	23	14*	23.00	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash	4	5	2	47	19*	15.66	—	—	3
D R Pringle	4	4	1	20	10	6.66	—	—	2
D V Lawrence	2	1	0	4	4	4.00	—	—	—
P C R Tufnell	3	1	0	2	2	2.00	—	—	2
P A J DeFreitas	3	1	1	7	7*	—	—	—	—

I T Botham and R K Illingworth played in one match but did not bat

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	BB	5i	10m
D V Lawrence	64	20	129	9	14.33	5-52	1	—
P C R Tufnell	189.3	66	370	23	16.08	7-47	2	1
I T Botham	18	4	40	2	20.00	2-40	—	—
G A Gooch	27	12	85	3	28.33	2-14	—	—
D A Reeve	82.1	25	218	7	31.14	2-19	—	—
D R Pringle	127	32	317	9	35.22	2-37	—	—
C C Lewis	107.5	30	257	7	36.14	2-37	—	—
M R Ramprakash	12	2	40	1	40.00	1-29	—	—
P A J DeFreitas	109.4	16	245	5	49.00	2-38	—	—
R K Illingworth	21	7	53	1	53.00	1-53	—	—
G A Hick	87	32	186	1	186.00	1-39	—	—

ALSO BOWLED: R C Russell 1-0-5-0; A J Lamb 1-0-8-0; A J Stewart 2-0-9-0; R A Smith 11-4-33-0

☐ *Compiled by Richard Lockwood* *Source: TCCB/Bull*

Height of delight: Kapil Dev appeals for one of his five wickets in Adelaide yesterday

Australia plod ahead in a battle of attrition

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK
IN ADELAIDE

AUSTRALIA spent yesterday, *as they had Monday,* trying to put the fourth Test match, and therefore the series, out of India's reach, and by close of play they had probably succeeded. India will start the last day needing 341 to win, with all their second-innings wickets standing.

Chasing 493 on the same ground in 1978, they reached 445; but that was on a more encouraging pitch and against an Australian side without its Packer mer*cenaries. The present match* has been almost entirely devoid of confident strokeplay; runs have been scored at the rate of 2.4 an over and 213 a day.

Given a 90-over last day, India will have to average 3.8 runs an over, and Azharuddin, for one, has been in no sort of form. But what a bounty it would be if they were to get somewhere near it.

Australia's second innings of 451 was an unalleviated plod. Taylor's hundred on Monday was within a minute of being the slowest ever made for Australia. And by tea time yesterday, Border had been batting for five hours for 77.

India, needless to say, took a long time about their overs, though their readiness to join in the battle of attrition is partly explained by an injury to Prabakhar, which kept him off the field.

Just under an hour into the morning's play, only one wicket had fallen in the previous 116 overs of the match — and that to a long hop. Boon, Jones and Waugh were then all out within the space of four balls and without a run being scored.

Had Kapil Dev caught Healy on the square leg boundary off Tendulkar soon afterwards, as he unquestionably should have done, Australia would have been 290 for six — a lead of 210 with only Border and the bowlers left. Instead, Healy's 41 and the 71 he added with his captain pinned India back again.

Having batted with grim determination for seven-and-three-quarter hours, Boon went walkabout. Pandit, India's jack-in-the-box in wicketkeeping gloves, caught him unawares, so that an ambled leg-side single suddenly became a desperate yet unavailing sprint for safety.

It is hard to think that anyone could have been particularly sorry to see the end of Boon. But the prospect of watching, at long last, more batsmanship than abstinence was no more a mirage.

Pushing out at his second ball, an outswinger, Jones was caught at the wicket. If Waugh's reaction was anything to go by, the decision *that then sent him on his way* — given out first ball, caught at third slip off bat and pad — allowed the Indians to feel that they, for once, had won the lottery.

Unless he cries off in the meantime, Peter McConnell will go into the World Cup as one of the two Australian umpiring representatives *with his confidence at a very* low ebb.

In Prabakhar's absence, much was asked of Kapil Dev and he responded splendidly by getting to within three of his 400th Test wicket. His control is as good as it ever was, perhaps better.

Srinath, a lissom medium pacer, and Raju, orthodox left-arm spin, mostly shared the other end, though when Tendulkar was occasionally given the ball it was fun. Like the wonderfully natural cricketer he is, he will try *anything — and, at 18, he has* yet to take the game too seriously.

☐ **Bombay:** Ravi Shastri, the Indian vice-captain, is likely to be fit for the World Cup next month. A spokesman for the Bombay Cricket Association said yesterday that Shastri's hamstring and ligament injuries, which caused *him to fly home from the tour* of Australia on Monday, were "not of a lasting nature". India have delayed announcing their 14-man World Cup squad until early next month. *(Reuter)*

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 145.

Second Innings

M A Taylor c Raju b Kapil Dev	100
G R Marsh b Kapil Dev	5
D C Boon run out	135
*A R Border not out	91
D M Jones c Pandit b Kapil Dev	0
M E Waugh c Tendulkar b Kapil Dev	0
†I A Healy c Srikkanth b Kapil Dev	41
M G Hughes lbw b Srinath	23
S K Warne c Pandit b Srinath	0
C J McDermott b Raju	21
M R Whitney c Srinath b Raju	12
Extras (lb 15, nb 8)	23
Total	451

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-231, 3-277, 4-277, 5-277, 6-348, 7-388, 8-383, 9-409.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 51-12-130-6; Prabhakar 21-5-80-0; Raju 58-15-121-2; Srinath 37-14-78-2; Srikkanth 1-0-5-0; Tendulkar 20-5-44-0.

INDIA: First Innings 225 (Kapil Dev 58; C J McDermott 5 for 76)

Second Innings

K Srikkanth not out	13
N S Sidhu not out	13
Extras (lb 2, nb 3)	5
Total	31

S V Manjrekar, D B Vengsarkar, *M Azharuddin, S R Tendulkar, Kapil Dev, M Prabhakar, †C S Pandit, S L V Raju and J Srinath to bat.

BOWLING: McDermott 7-1-17-0, Whitney 4-1-11-0, Hughes 2-1-1-0.

Umpires: P J McConnell and D Hair

YACHTING

Scientist reveals Bond's keel broke Cup rules

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

AS CREWS enjoyed Monday's rest-day from the Louis Vuitton America's Cup trials off San Diego, Peter van Oossanen, the research scientist who worked with Ben Lexcen to develop the design of Alan Bond's victorious Australia II 12-metre yacht, revealed how his input changed the course of yachting history.

Faced by a superior boat from Australia in the 1983 America's Cup, Dennis Conner and members of the defending New York Yacht Club tried unsuccessfully to prove that the yacht's novel wing keel was a Dutch invention and not the brainchild of the Australian designer, as the rules insist. "They were 70 per cent right, but could never prove any of it," Van Oossanen, who was sworn to secrecy, said.

If they had, Bond's challenger would have been barred from the competition; Peter de Savary's yacht, Victory '83, would have been the challenger, and, in all proba*bility, the Cup would have* remained with the New York YC and not now be sitting in San Diego.

"The boat and keel were the products of a remarkable team effort," Van Oossanen said. "Ben Lexcen came to Holland to take advantage of the computerised design programme we had developed at the Ship Model Basin, to test ideas without going to the expense of running models in a tank."

Among the many keel shapes Van Oossanen fed through the programme to improve the stability and windward performance of Lexcen's beaten 1980 challenger, Australia, was the yacht's original trapezoidal keel, inverted so that the greatest mass of lead was centred near the bottom.

"It was Ben's idea and the test results showed an immediate advantage. The only problem was the large vortices that developed along the bottom of the keel," Van Oossanen said.

The Dutchman then discussed the problem with Joop Sloof, a scientific colleague, who later claimed that he invented the wing keel. "All he did was point us to a scientific paper on research into the inverted winglets fitted to the wingtips of Jumbo jets. We took the idea back and tried it, and found it improved the boat's performance by two per cent."

Lexcen, Van Oossanen conceded, refined the idea and drew up the final lines. "It was Ben who faired in the wings and developed the final shape of the keel, but the concept was the product of our teamwork," he said.

James Michael, then a member of the New York YC's defence committee, said yesterday that he was not surprised by van Oossanen's revelations. "It was one of those situations when we knew we were right but could never prove it," he said.

GYMNASTICS

Sands heats up Games rivalry

BY PETER AYKROYD

ALITIA Sands's unexpected recapture of the national rhythmic gymnastics title last weekend at Bletchley has intensified the contest for Britain's two places at the Barcelona Olympic Games this summer.

At the national championships, Sands upset the leading contenders, Viva Seifert and Debbie Southwick, who tied for the silver medal. Seifert was the defending champion and Southwick last year took Britain to their highest international level, taking 37th place at the world championships in Athens. Indeed, at that event, Southwick and Seifert qualified Britain for two places at the Barcelona Games.

Southwick, aged 15, from Widnes, is considered to be Britain's most exciting prospect. She has outstanding skill, elegant poise and imaginative movements, encouraged by Irina Viner, a leading Russian choreographer. Earlier this month, Southwick went to Moscow to train with the Russian team under Viner's direction.

Seifert, from Hillingdon, also trains abroad, visiting Bulgaria regularly. Sands, from Coventry, does have international experience and, as demonstrated, consistency under pressure.

TABLE TENNIS

Europe bid in offing

ENGLAND is preparing to bid for the 1994 European championships following the withdrawal of the original host, Yugoslavia. (Richard Eaton writes). The English Table Tennis Association, which organised the 1983 European Top 12 and the 1977 world championships, is to assess the financial viability of raising the £1 million which will be needed to stage the championship.

Zoran Primorac, the world No. 19, will be given a direct entry into the Olympic Games this year to represent Croatia following the decision of the International Table Tennis Federation's (ITTF) to grant permission to that country to compete.

Competitors from Slovenia, Albania and Estonia will compete in the Olympic qualifying tournament. Those countries and Russia and Kazakhstan have asked for affiliation to the ITTF, whose number of member countries approaches 150.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	Temp °C	Last snow fall
FRANCE							
Barèges	45	65	fair	open	sun	-5	23/1
(Bare patches on lower runs; best skiing at Super Barèges)							
La Clusaz	30	190	good	open	sun	-4	20/1
(Good skiing above 1,000m, patchy and icy lower down)							
Les Deux Alpes	50	190	good	open	sun	-3	21/1
(Good skiing on glacier, 75 pistes open)							
Montgenevre	70	110	good	open	sun	-5	21/1
(All lifts and pistes; links within France and to Italy open)							
Morzine	70	140	good	open	valley fog	-10	20/1
(Best skiing at Nyon, lower runs icy and patchy)							
Valloire	45	100	good	open	sunny	-3	20/1
(Best on the Crey du Quart, 27 lifts and 71 pistes)							
AUSTRIA							
Altenmarkt	50	110	good	open	sunny	-4	21/1
(Good with firmly packed base; all lifts)							
Ellmau	40	70	good	open	cloudy	-5	21/1
(All links in the Grossraum and all runs open; ten lifts open)							
Fulpmes	10	50	fair	closed	cloudy	-7	20/1
(Middle to bottom runs closed, best on glacier; ten lifts open)							
Seefeld	40	80	good	open	cloudy	-7	21/1
(Good skiing on firm snow, 16 lifts and all pistes open)							
Zell am See	65	130	good	open	valley fog	-5	20/1
(Hard-packed but good in general, all lifts and pistes open)							
SWITZERLAND							
Crans Montana	35	150	good	open	sunny	-4	21/1
(Powder on upper runs, glacier best, lower runs hard)							
Celerd	20	90	good	open	sun/cloud	-6	21/1
(Upper runs have soft dry snow on firm base, 64 lifts open)							
St Moritz	100	150	good	open	sunny/cold	-6	25/1
(Very good throughout with soft dry snow on all runs)							
Wengen	45	95	good	open	sunny	-3	21/1
(Upper runs have soft dry snow, lower becoming hard)							
ITALY							
Bormio	100	130	good	open	sunny	-10	10/1
(Pistes hard-packed with some icy patches; snowmaking)							
Canazei	40	100	good	open	var	n a	22/1
(Up to 120cm on the glacier, light powder skiing; 18 lifts open)							
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	100	150	good	open	cold	-4	24/1
(Good with powder all round, all lifts and runs open)							

Supplied by Ski Hotline. L and U refer to lower and upper slopes

NETBALL

League hopes on the line

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

THE balance at the top of the English Counties League may tilt in one direction at the Luton regional sports centre tonight. Essex Metropolitan head the table on goal difference from Surrey, but just six points behind are Bedfordshire and Birmingham, who meet this evening.

With five points for a win that is no great deficit, and while Surrey may be champions, **Bedfordshire** and **Birmingham** have each won the title in recent years. That is reflected in two squads replete with internationals; although in Birmingham's case they tend to be retired.

If Birmingham, who include Joan Bryan, the goalshooter who closed her England career by retiring last summer, Collette Thomson, so long the England captain before becoming an international selector, and Sharon Jones, a former colleague on tours abroad, are England past, Bedfordshire are quite the present version.

They are captained by Kendra Lowe, now recovered from a long-term injury and back fulfilling the same role for England, and feature three of her team-mates, in Trudy Papafio, Sharon Fogerty and Lisa Jones.

Whatever happens tonight, on Saturday Essex Metropolitan and Surrey will aim to maintain their advantage, away to **Cheshire** and home to **Hampshire North** respectively. They are matches the leaders should win, but if they were to slip up either Bedfordshire or Birmingham would be sitting close.

Lowe: recovered

The All England Netball Association (AENA) has received an invitation from the East Caribbean countries for an English coach to visit there on an eight-month contract.

Likewise, Abu Dhabi, where netball is a boom sport, has invited a coach to visit this March, and the AENA has received six applications from interested parties.

"It shows our coaches and umpires are held in high esteem abroad," Liz Nicholl, the chief executive of AENA, said, citing the further example of Maureen Lee, who has been asked to return to New Columbia later this year in order to repeat a previous umpiring course.

Nicholl has received a further boost with confirmation from the BBC's *Grandstand* programme that it will broadcast one of the three internationals against New Zealand this November. "That is excellent news and should help us ensure good sponsorship," she said.

VOLLEYBALL

Bank extends its sponsorship deal

BY RODDY MACKENZIE

THE Royal Bank of Scotland has extended its sponsorship of the national league and cup competitions in England and Scotland. In a package worth more than £160,000, the leading competitions north and south of the border will be backed until the end of the 1993-4 season and the bank will have an option to continue.

Its involvement with the game stretches back to 1981, when it sponsored the Scottish league and Scottish cup. So successful was the agreement that it extended financial support to England in 1986.

"It is a boost for us, particularly in these recessionary times," George Bulman, the national director of the English Volleyball Association (EVA), said.

Team Mizuno Malory, whose rise to prominence has coincided with the bank's backing, strengthened their grip on the leadership of the men's first division at the weekend. The champions beat **Wessex** 15-12, 15-8, 15-5 as **Hilton Leeds** kept up their challenge with a 17-16, 15-17, 15-9, 15-13 win at **Polonia Ealing**.

In the women's first division, there were no surprises with **Woolwich Brixton**, the leaders, defeating **Hilton Leeds** 15-8, 15-2, 15-11.

In Scotland, David Kalugerovich, the **Telford** player-coach, made a surprise appearance for the **Edinburgh** team a matter of weeks after claiming he would never play for a Scottish club again after being unhappy at decisions made by the Scottish Volleyball Association (SVA).

Telford celebrated his return to the fold by beating **Coatbridge** 15-2, 15-13, 7-15, 15-8, although the title now looks to be beyond them. **West Coast**, still unbeaten, had to work hard to overhaul **Bellshill Cardinals** 5-15, 15-2, 9-15, 15-8, 15-8.

RIFLE SHOOTING

Plans pay off for target team

BRITAIN'S target rifle team returned from their New Zealand tour yesterday after providing a demonstration of team shooting at its best in winning the Australia Trophy, the highest team award in Commonwealth shooting, for the third time in succession (Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent writes).

Shooting is not easy to take up again in the middle of winter, for not only have the shooters to get back on form, the rifles, too, have to be brought back into condition. But the group planned to use the New Zealand championships to get the measure of the notorious Wellington wind and motivate the team, rather than seek individual glory, and the strategy paid off.

Australia drew level halfway through the 1,000-yards section of the four-range match, but Britain held on to win by four points, with an average score of 192 out of 200 and 196 from Andy Chown and Andrew Lothian.

هكذا من الأصل

Hoping for a season when Lotus blossoms

Norman Howell finds the Lotus team trying to overtake the recession and return to the fast lane of Formula One

Unlikely as it may sound, this season Lotus would want to do no more than emi e the Jordan team. The once great and innovative marque would wish only to become competitive with the leading four constructors and ruffle a few feathers, as Jordan did in 1991 against all expectations.

It is an indication of how far the fortunes of Lotus have fallen. Jordan were making their first appearance in Formula One last season; Lotus have a long and proud tradition. It was Stirling Moss who secured the team's first grand prix victory in 1960; Jim Clark won two world championships and 25 races while Graham Hill was world champion and won 14. Lotus, under the late Colin Chapman, were also great innovators.

Lotus instituted the first proper aerodynamic studies which led to the introduction of ground-effects designs, the so-called skirts. If the Sixties and Seventies were good years for Lotus, the following decade was less so and the past two years have been abysmal. Ayrton Senna, who was the last driver to win a grand prix at the wheel of a Lotus, in 1987, spoke only two years later of his sadness at his former team's inability to qualify for the Belgian grand prix.

That, and Martin Donnelly's accident at Jerez, were the team's lowest points in 1990. Many felt that Lotus had got into such a downward spiral, that it was going to stay at the back of the grid. The recession has not helped. "This time last year we only had about five per cent of our budget in place," Peter Collins, who with Peter Wright runs Team Lotus, said. "We didn't know how we would get to the end of the season.

"Getting through last year was a tough proposition. We found sponsorship as we went along. But in a way the difficulties we experienced have taught us a great deal about what you really need to run an Formula One team."

Collins sits in the team's headquarters in Norfolk. It is a magnificent setting: trophies and models of past victorious cars are discreetly on show. There is a feeling of opulence and it seems odd that Collins should start talking about the kind of lateral thinking that a distinct lack of money has forced his team into.

"Last year we only went testing twice," he said. "There seems to be a bit of a craze about this now, but we prefer to rely more on proper homework before we test anything. That way, we save money and maximise our efforts."

Collins says there are a number of ways his team has found to make its relatively meagre resources — teams at this level are still looking for budgets in the region of $20 million — go further in a sport where improvement is measured on the tiniest of scales, while the money spent in achieving this is astronomical.

"Compared to other teams, we must have taken the least amount of kit with us to Japan and Australia," Collins said. "We also shared hotel rooms for most of last year. And we hired a coach to drive to the French grand prix. We saved £3,000, and people may laugh at that, but that is the cost of an engine rebuild."

On the subject of engines, Collins is rightly proud to have secured the Ford HB V8 that powered Jordan last year. "That has given us credibility," he said.

Team Lotus has a reliable engine, two good drivers in Johnny Herbert and Mika Hakkinen and, in Chris Murphy, a designer who Collins believes will deliver a state-of-the-art car in time for the first European race, in Barcelona in May. The Lotus drivers will also benefit from a helmet-mounted instrument display, similar to those used by fighter pilots in the RAF. It will provide them with engine information which will flash up on the inside of their visors.

Collins believes that Formula One will have to become leaner and meaner to survive the cash flow problems affecting the large corporations worldwide. Less money will have to go further, and he thinks that Lotus is the team that will emerge ready and fit to fight for honours again from this year onwards.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Team Lotus: Collins, left, and Murphy hope that Hakkinen can ruffle a few feathers in 1992

Clampdown denied as Notts County manager is accused of misconduct

Welsh may share European finals

By Peter Robinson

THE Football Association's search for suitable venues to stage the 1996 European championships could soon lead across the River Severn to Cardiff Arms Park, the spiritual home of Welsh rugby union. A joint bid to stage the tournament, for a long time not an option that found favour within Lancaster Gate, is now a possibility, the FA admitted yesterday.

Driven by the need to accomodate the 16-team competition being considered by Uefa, European football's governing body, instead of the established eight-strong event, the FA is looking at the Arms Park as another stadium to add to a list that already includes Wembley, Old Trafford, Villa Park and Elland Road. Those four would stage games if England succeeds with its bid to host the championships in their present form in four years' time.

"Ideally, we would like to stage the tournament alone, but if Uefa decided two nations should be involved, we would go along with that," the FA's spokesman, Glen Kirton, said.

Uefa officials, aware of Welsh participation in the Football League and impressed with the facilities offered at the Arms Park, are understood to have mentioned the possibility to the FA just over a week ago.

Radomir Antic, the former Luton Town midfield player, was yesterday dismissed as coach of Real Madrid. With Barcelona closing the gap on Real at the top of the Spanish League, Antic has swapped places with Leo Beenhakker, the club's general manager.

Dynamo Dresden's club doctor, Wolfgang Klein, has admitted spying on players for the Stasi, the East German secret police. He said the East German league had been "riddled" with informers.

Cameroon yesterday became the third country in 24 hours — following Senegal and Egypt — to part company with their manager after the African nations' cup. Phillip Redon resigned after Cameroon lost in the semi-finals.

Warnock is charged by FA after remarks to referee

By Louise Taylor

NEIL Warnock yesterday became the latest manager to be charged with misconduct by the Football Association. Warnock's charge relates to comments allegedly made to the referee, Keith Hackett, during his Notts County side's defeat at home to Leicester City in the Zenith Data Systems Cup earlier this month.

The case takes the number of misconduct cases pending at the FA to seven, but David Bloomfield, its press officer, stressed yesterday that this is purely coincidence.

"There is no set policy and there is no deliberate clampdown," he said. "We take action where we feel it is necessary. There has been a spate of cases, but you have to view things in terms of the season overall. It is possibly no worse than last season, but things come in rushes. For example, earlier this season, a lot of people seemed to be getting sent off."

Warnock's charge came 24 hours after the FA charged Joe Kinnear, the new manager of Wimbledon, with misconduct. Other managers waiting to be dealt with are Steve Coppell, of Crystal Palace, and Howard Wilkinson, of Leeds United, who is chairman of the League Managers' Association. All cases relate to comments made to match officials.

Anyone charged has 14 days in which to book a personal hearing. Coppell, who was reported after a match against Manchester City, has told the FA he will not be making such a plea and wants his case considered by corrspondence. Warnock, too, has opted for a written, rather than verbal, defence.

Wilkinson, who was fined £500 for a similar offence last season, has indicated that he will appear at Lancaster Gate in order to explain comments made to officials during the recent 6-1 televised win at Sheffield Wednesday.

Managers do not represent the only problem. Players are queuing up to have their cases heard, with Peter Billing, the Coventry City and England Under-21 international central defender becoming the latest to be charged yesterday. His alleged misconduct centres on remarks made to Tony Ward, who refereed Coventry's FA Cup third-round replay defeat at Cambridge United on January 14.

Billing's temper flared when Cambridge were awarded a controversial penalty for handball by his teammate, Pearce, in the final minute and he had to be restrained by other Coventry players from violently remonstrating with Ward.

Les Sealey, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, who has already been fined a fortnight's wages by his club, was charged by the FA on Monday after a verbal attack on George Courtney, the Fifa referee, after a recent game against Sheffield Wednesday.

Michael Thomas, the Liverpool midfield player, also fell foul of the misconduct regulation after his attack in a Sunday newspaper on the managerial methods and playing style adopted by George Graham, who is in charge of Arsenal, Thomas's former club.

Branfoot is keen to prove his point

By Louise Taylor

HOW many times this season must Ian Branfoot have wished he could swap jobs with the man seated in the visitors' dug-out at Southampton on Monday night?

The occasion was a 0-0 FA Cup fourth-round draw with Manchester United but, while Alex Ferguson contemplates a possible treble, Branfoot is preoccupied with ensuring that The Dell stages Premier League football in August.

Southampton languish second from bottom of the first division and their manager, in his first season in the job, is the butt of criticism from supporters and press.

It centres on alleged use of the long ball, although against both United and Chelsea — whom they defeated 2-0 in the first leg of a Zenith Data Syststems southern area final last Tuesday, and meet again in the return at Stamford Bridge tonight — Southampton looked anything but a kick-and-rush brigade.

Branfoot maintains his team have tried to play "football" all along and that his detractors have been blinded by the "direct" label attached to him in recent jobs as manager of Reading and coach at Crystal Palace.

"Palace were an out-and-out long ball team and proud of it so, when I came here, nobody bothered to look closely at the way we were playing," he said. "I was tagged before I'd begun."

Considering that Branfoot — once a rugged full back with Sheffield Wednesday and Doncaster Rovers — began his coaching career under the management of Graham Taylor at Lincoln City, such stereotyping is no surprise.

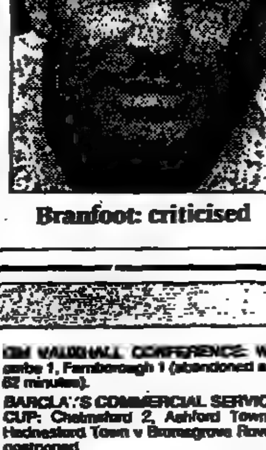
Branfoot, aged 42, who subsequently became youth coach at Lawrie McMenemy's Southampton before steering Reading from the fourth to second division, believes the long ball is a magnet for hypocrisy.

"When Glenn Hoddle hits one it becomes a long *pass*. When Liverpool came here, they began by kicking the ball straight into the corner flags three times. They told us they often do it to turn defenders early on. The other week we won 2-1 at Tottenham and made most of the short passes."

That win, followed by success in the ZDS, have "been terrific for confidence. Real life-savers". They have also, temporarily at least, quelled the cries of "Branfoot out".

"I cannot say it does not affect me," he said.

Yet Branfoot, whose football upbringing on the terraces at Sunderland acquainted him with fanaticism, hopes to deflect such destructive passion into the path of opposing sides. "I want our crowd to make The Dell a fearsome, daunting place for teams to visit."



Branfoot: criticised

More results like Monday's should help while the attacking duo of Alan Shearer and Matthew Le Tissier have already proved they possess sufficent skill to frighten England defenders of the calibre of Gary Pallister and Paul Parker.

Both have been the subject of considerable transfer speculation but Branfoot insists they are "staying".

So is he: resignation is the last thing on his mind. "Not a chance. I have absolutely no regrets about accepting the job," he said.

"But it is true to say that, with tonight's game against Chelsea, the League match at Norwich on Saturday — we badly need three points — and the replay against United, this next week could make or break our season."

SWIMMING

Davies enhances Olympic claims

By Craig Lord

BRITISH short-course record times brought victory for Sharron Davies and Mark Foster in the sixth round of the World Cup at Milan last night, strengthening their claims for places in the British team for the Olympic Games in Barcelona.

In lowering the national 200 metres medley record for the third time in five weeks, to defeat Beatrice Coada, of Romania, Davies, aged 29, added yet another chapter to one of the most outstanding stories of British swimming.

At the fifth round of the cup at Bonn last Saturday, Davies promised to better 2min 14sec in Milan, after coming third to Elena Dendeverova, of Russia, in 2min 14.16sec. She was as good as her word, clocking 2min 13.41sec.

She became the first British woman to swim under 2min 15sec in winning the English title at Barnet last month and has improved the British record by almost two seconds from the point at which it stood to Zara Long. Last night's time was also four seconds faster than Davies returned to become English champion in 1980, the year in which she won a silver medal at the Moscow Olympics before taking a break from the sport of some eight years.

Davies, who trains at Portsmouth and Bracknell, led from start to finish and was never under pressure. She is now less than a second away from the Commonwealth record, held by Nancy Sweetnam, of Canada.

The performance of Foster, of Barnet Copthall, was also highly encouraging. While the 50 metres butterfly which he won last night in 24.10sec — just 0.05sec slower than the world best time of the German, Nils Rudolph — is not an Olympic event, the effort confirms that his sprint ability has improved with every passing week since he began to race last autumn after a 14-month break.

RESULTS: Men: 100m freestyle: A Kasvio (Fin), 49.35sec. 400m freestyle: S Pfeiffer (Ger), 3min 45.12. 100m backstroke: M Tewksbury (Can), 54.34. 50m breaststroke: V Ivanov (CIS), 27.84. 200m breaststroke: M Dork (Nor), 2:11.78. 50m butterfly: M Foster (Eng), 24.10 (British record). 200m butterfly: D Loader (NZ), 1:59.17. 100m medley: L Carbonari (It) and J Hladky (Ger), 56.14. 400m medley: L Sacchi (It), 4.12.06.

Women: 50m freestyle: I de Bruijn (Neth), 25.83. 200m freestyle: M Stellmach (Ger), 1:58.89. 50m backstroke: S Voelker (Ger), 29.38. 200m backstroke: A Simcic (NZ), 2:08.11. 100m breaststroke: S Gerasch (Ger), 1:08.51. 100m butterfly: Y Kando (Japan), 1:00.39. 200m medley: S Davies (Eng), 2:13.41 (British record). 800m freestyle: I Dalby (Nor), 8:32.37

BRIDGE

Woman's touch helps England to victory

ENGLAND won both age categories in the junior home international series, the first international championship held at the National Sports Centre, Cardiff (Albert Dormer writes).

In the Junior Camrose Trophy for under-25s, the winners, comfortably ahead of Wales, included Francis Hinden, of Cambridge University, at 21 the first woman to represent England in the events. The youngest competitor was Martin Bateman, aged 13, of Glasgow, in the Peggy Bayer Trophy for under-20s, where Scotland led before fading to finish second, ahead of Northern Ireland.

In the battle of the Systems, at the Hyde Park Hotel, both sides last night were showing signs of strain arising from the stringent conditions of the contest, which ban substitution. But the scientific Americans, with their eyes on the £50,000 purse, seemed to be remorsely grinding their free-wheeling Naturalist opponents into submission.

With 32 boards remaining in the 128-board encounter, Robert Hamman, Bobby Wolff, Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell had set up a 227-156 lead over Tony Forester and Andrew Robson, of Britain, and the Brazilian pair, Gabriel Chagas and Marcelo Branco.

IN BRIEF

Dates for Graham title bid

Herol Graham has been offered two dates, February 27 and March 6, on which to meet Sumbu Kalambay in Pesaro, central Italy, for the latter's European middleweight title. Graham lost the title to Kalambay in 1987.

☐ Joe Kelly won the vacant British bantamweight title by outpointing Ronnie Carroll over 12 rounds in Glasgow.

Gonzalez on top

Boxing: Humberto Gonzalez, of Mexico, retained his WBC world light-flyweight boxing championship yesterday with a unanimous points decision over Domingo Sosa, of the Dominican Republic.

Busy Wigan

Rugby League: Wigan fly to Sydney on Monday for the inaugural World Sevens even after playing their postponed first round Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie against Salford on Sunday. If Wigan win they will play the second round on February 23, the third round date, after they return.

☐ Wayne Parker, captain of Hull Kingston Rovers, is out of action for a month after dislocating a shoulder.

German blow

Tennis: Michael Stich, the Wimbledon champion, has pulled out of Germany's first round Davis Cup tie against Brazil in Rio de Janeiro this weekend because of injury.

☐ Nick Fulwood, from Derbyshire, and Amanda Grenfeld, Lancashire, won the men's and women's finals in the eighth round of the LTA British Tour at Wigan.

Cape warm-up

Cricket: Warwickshire and Yorkshire are to play Western Province in Cape Town at the end of March.

☐ Plans to build a shopping centre on the historic cricket ground in the centre of Hastings have again stalled. Sussex play Nottinghamshire there on June 16 in a second XI match.

Estonian rides

Cycling: The travel and hotel expenses of Alges Maasikmets, a lone Estonian entrant for the world cyclo-cross championships in Leeds this Saturday, are being met by the British governing bodies.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

Barclays League
First division
Liverpool v Arsenal (8.05)
Second division
Bristol Rovers v Portsmouth (8.0)
Zenith Data Systems Cup
Finals
Northern section
Leicester v Nottm Forest (all ticket, 7.45)
Southern section
Chelsea v Southampton
B and Q Scottish League
First division
Meadowbank v Morton
Second division
Cowdenbeath v Arbroath

OTHER MATCH: Leeds Utd v Bayern Munich (7.45)

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley v Blackburn (7.0); Bolton v Sunderland (7.0). Postponed: Leeds v Newcastle. Second division: Mansfield v Port Vale (7.0), Oldham v Hull (7.0), Burnley v Huddersfield (7.15). Postponed: Middlesbrough v Grimsby.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Fulham v Watford (2.0); Reading v QPR (2.0); Swindon v Oxford Utd (2.0); Wimbledon v Norwich

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Weston-super-Mare v Chard.

CLIFTON STOCKBROKERS LEAGUE: Swansea City v Plymouth Argyle

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Farsley Celtic v Harrogate.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Swansea v Cardiff.

RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Cambridge University v Royal Navy, Oxford University v RAF.

CLUB MATCHES: Newport v Ebbw Vale (7.0); Swansea v Aberavon (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Kells v Hunslet (at Whitehaven, 7.30); Scarborough Pirates v Bradford (7.30); Oldham v Warrington (7.30). Postponed: Highfield v London Crusaders; Rochdale v Hull (8.0). First round replay: Postponed: Keighley v Barrow.

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Third division: Chorley v Huddersfield (8.0).

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Leicester Riders v Hemel Hempstead Royals.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

RUMBELOWS CUP: Fifth round replay: Postponed: Middlesbrough v Peterborough.

AUTOGLASS TROPHY: First round: Postponed: Burnley v Scarborough.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Second division: Postponed: Grimsby v Southend. Fourth division: Postponed: Mansfield v Lincoln; Halifax v Crewe.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Third round: Postponed: Dundee v Stirling Albion. Third round replay: Postponed: Motherwell v Ayr.

B AND Q SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Postponed: Clyde v Albion Rovers; Brechin v Stranraer; Stenhousemuir v Dumbarton.

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kettering v Macclesfield.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Postponed: First division: Coventry v Liverpool, Rotherham v Sheffield Wed; Sheffield Utd v Manchester City. Second division: Notts County v Scunthorpe; York v Leicester.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Postponed: Alvechurch v Yate; Bridgnorth v Hinckley.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT: Kuwait 3, Qatar 0.

Late results on Monday

FA CUP: Fourth round: Southampton 0, Manchester Utd 0

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Wycombe 1, Farnborough 1 (abandoned after 62 minutes).

BARCLAYS COMMERCIAL SERVICES CUP: Chelmsford 2, Ashford Town 0; Hednesford Town v Bromsgrove Rovers, postponed.

LOCTITE CUP: Harlow 2, Hayes 4

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Bradford City 5, Nottingham Forest 1. Second division: Mansfield v Port Vale, postponed; Stoke City v Wigan Athletic, postponed.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Emley v Accrington Stanley, postponed. First division: Curzon Ashton v Knowsley United, postponed. League Cup: Third round replay: Gretsley v Morecambe, postponed.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Luton Town 1, Queen's Park Rangers 0, Millwall 5, Reading 4; West Ham United 1, Watford 3

FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round: Queen's Park Rangers 5, Brentford 1.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Clevedon Town 1, Bath City 2

ENGLISH SCHOOLS CROYDON CUP: Third Round: Ouse Valley 2, Brighton 4.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Postponed: Salford v Wigan, Doncaster v Swinton.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York Knicks 97, Utah Jazz 80

BOXING

GLASGOW: Professional bill: British bantamweight championship: Joe Kelly (Glasgow) bt Ronnie Carroll (Glasgow), pts. Light-welter: Kris McAdam (Glasgow) bt Pete Roberts (Isle of Man) 2nd rnd. Bantam: Drew Docherty (Croy) bt Neil Parry (Darlington), rsc 4th

CRICKET

RED STRIPE CUP: St Johns: Windward Islands 193 and 248. Leeward Islands 242 and 200-2 (K Arthurton 97 not out, R Jacobs 52 not out) Leeward Islands won by eight wickets. Kingston: Guyana 173 and 232, Jamaica 171 and 235-4 (J Adams 102 not out, J Dujon 66 not out) Jamaica won by six wickets. Port of Spain: Trinidad and Tobago 250 and 208-4 dec. Barbados 108 and 309-7 (R Holder 123, C Browne 62 not out). Match drawn

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand: Women's match: Second day of three: England XI 244-8 dec and 49-2; New Zealand President's XI 208-5 dec

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan: Second Under-19 Test: Third day: Pakistan 53-2 v England (first two days abandoned, rain).

CYCLING

ANTWERP: Six-day race (after fourth night) 1, S Tourne (Bel) and J Veggerby (Den), 209 points. 2, P Pieters (Neth) and U Freuler (Switz), 303, one lap behind. 3, P Bincoletto and A Baffi (It), 215 1. 4, E De Wilde and J Bruyneel (Bel), 181, 2. 5, B Holenweger and W Stutz (Switz), 149 2. 6, T Doyle (GB) and J Nijdam (Neth), 124, 6

GOLF

SAN LORENZO, Algarve: Longshot-Hotel Donafilipa Pro-Am: 70: P Mitchell (Rochester and Cobham). 72: C Defoy (Coombe Hill). 74: D Butler (Coombe Wood), M Studds (Formby Golf Centre), P Bradley (Billingham), J Hoskison (West Surrey). 75: G Grey (Dumfries). 76: A Rettie (St George's Hill). 77: Diane Barnard (Sanaetsu), A Garrido (Sp), T Blackburn (Dartford). Team: 135: Billingham. 138: Dartford. 139: Crane Valley.

ICE HOCKEY

ROUEN: Olympic Warm-up tournament: France 1, United States 2, Poland 3, Norway 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston Bruins 3, Minnesota North Stars 2; Chicago Blackhawks 4, Calgary Flames 3 (OT).

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Army v Tennis and Rackets Association (Army names first) J Smith-Bingham and D Reed-Felstead bt S Loup and D MacDonald, 3-2. T Toyne-Sewell and A Finlayson bt M Cox and M Lingens 3-0

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Army v Tennis and Rackets Association (Army names first) M Rowan and J Drabble bt J Griffith Jones and J Wilson 6-2, 6-4. C Wright and P Watts bt C Griffith-Jones and C Sartin 6-1, 6-3. R Broke and A James bt M Dunnington-Jefferson and P Wilson, 6-5, 4-6, 6-5. J English and I Park-Weir bt M Mallinson and J Lawton 6-2, 6-1. T Toyne-Sewell and D Reed-Felstead lost to J Browne and D MacDonald, 3-6, 3-6. I Park-Weir and I Finlayson lost to M Dunnington-Jefferson and T Jackson, 3-6, 6-4, 5-6

YACHTING

WORLD 18ft SKIFF CHAMPIONSHIPS: Heat 7: 1, Winfield (M Spies); 2, Pace Express (D Witt) 3, Childflight (M Jones) Final positions: 1, Aami (J Bethwaite), 3.0 points. 2, Winfield Racing, 14.7; 3, Pace Express, 30.5 Britons: 5, Childflight, 63.4; 11, Ovington (D Ovington), 105.0. 15, Chase Leisure (R Entwistle), 125.0

TENNIS

TOKYO: Pan-Pacific women's indoor tournament: First round: M Maleeva (Bul) bt B Schultz (Neth), 7-6, 6-4. W Shi-ting (Tai) bt A Minter (Aus), 6-2, 7-5; K Date (Japan) bt P Fendick (US), 6-3, 6-1, L Gildemeister (Peru) bt P Harper (US), 6-1, 7-5, A Kijimura (Japan) bt R Hiraki (Japan), 0-6, 6-0, 6-3 R Stubbs (Aus) bt N Zvereva (CIS), 6-4, 7-6, P Shriver (US) bt C Cunningham (US), 6-3, 6-2; M Endo (Japan) bt J Durie (GB), 6-4, 6-1; Y Basuki (Indo) bt M Yokobori (Japan) 7-6, 6-3

AUCKLAND: Women's tournament: First round: A Dechaume (Fr) bt D Szabova (Cz), 6-3, 6-2, J Byrne (Aus) bt S Hack (Ger), 7-5, 7-6, L Savchenko-Neiland (Latvia) bt I Cueto (Ger), 6-4, 6-3, P Thoren (Fin) bt J Richardson (NZ), 6-2, 6-7, 6-1, A Strnadova (Czech) bt N Ercegovbic (Croatia), 6-3, 6-3; B Fulco-Villella (Arg) bt N Pratt (Aus) 6-4, 6-4 S Gomer (GB) bt A Smashnova (Isr), 6-1, 6-3; D Faber (US) bt A Gavaldon (Mex), 7-6, 6-0, N Dahlman (Fin) bt R Fairbank-Nideffer (US), 6-2, 6-2, R Reggi (It) bt A Grossman (US), 6-2, 6-4

WIGAN: LTA British Tour: Eighth round: Men's final: N Fulwood (Derbyshire) bt P Hand (Berkshire), 6-1, 6-3. Women's final: A Grenfeld (Lancashire) bt V Lake (Devon), 6-3, 6-2. Bonus Pool positions: Men: 1, Hand, 760; 2, S Cole (Surrey), 650. 3, Fulwood, 380. Women's: 1 Grenfeld, 450; 2, Lake, 360 3, B Griffiths (Middlesex), 280

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THE TIMES
SPORT
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29 1992

Title chase could soon involve a third club

Liverpool look to challenge League leaders

BY IAN ROSS

LIVERPOOL will tonight seek to undermine further the widely held, if somewhat predictable, notion that the destiny of the League championship this season concerns just two clubs — the Uniteds of Manchester and Leeds.

If Liverpool should defeat Arsenal, the champions, at Anfield, a television audience of many millions would, perhaps, be forced reluctantly to acknowledge that a third northern force was a genuine contender for the most coveted prize in English football.

Liverpool's rise from an uncomfortable position of midtable anonymity has been impressive. The Merseyside club has not tasted defeat in a League fixture since Crystal Palace triumphed at Anfield on November 2.

Since then, 26 points have been gathered during the course of a 12-match unbeaten sequence, which has included notable wins over Manchester City, Tottenham Hotspur and Nottingham Forest. While a victory this evening would not improve Liverpool's position of third in the first division, it would narrow the gap between themselves and Manchester United, the leaders and favourites, to just eight points.

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	25	16	7	2	45	18	55
Leeds	26	14	11	1	49	21	53
Liverpool	25	11	11	3	32	22	44
Man City	26	12	8	6	35	29	44
Sheff Wed	25	12	7	6	39	30	43
A Villa	26	11	4	11	34	31	[illegible]
Arsenal	24	9	8	7	40	29	35
Chelsea	26	9	8	9	36	38	[illegible]
C Palace	24	9	8	7	36	[illegible]	35
Tottenham	25	10	4	11	[illegible]	33	34
Everton	25	9	6	10	35	32	33
Nottm For	24	9	5	10	39	35	32
QPR	26	7	11	8	27	32	32
Oldham	26	8	7	11	[illegible]	46	31
Norwich	25	7	9	9	30	34	[illegible]
Coventry	25	8	4	13	27	29	28
Wimbledon	25	6	[illegible]	10	29	33	27
Notts Co	25	7	6	12	26	34	27
Sheff Utd	26	7	6	13	34	44	27
West Ham	25	5	9	11	24	38	24
Southmptn	25	5	7	13	25	42	22
Luton	25	5	7	13	[illegible]	[illegible]	22

Typically, Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, declined to talk of his side's commendable recent progress yesterday, preferring instead to discuss the potential threat of tonight's opponents.

"Arsenal have had a disappointing season by their own standards and also a bit of criticism, especially after their defeat in the FA Cup by Wrexham," he said. "However, they have players with a bit of steel about them and will bounce back.

"They will be coming here with a great deal of confidence, having won at Anfield last season and having won the title here the year before. In the space of 90 minutes, they could get back all their credibility and self-esteem in front of a watching nation.

"This is a big game for us," Souness said. "We must remember it is the champions of England who are coming here."

Although the enormous catalogue of injury problems that has so restricted Souness's options this season has yet to fully clear up, Burrows, the England B international full back, discovered to his cost yesterday that the old adage suggesting reputations count for very little at Liverpool has its roots in fact rather than fiction.

Burrows, an impressive figure over the past 18 months, has now recovered from the hamstring injury that has kept him out of his club's last five fixtures but the assuredness shown by the Liverpool defence in his absence is such that he is unlikely to win an immediate recall.

Barnes, the England international winger, who has started just five senior games this season, will again be missing after being informed that a blood clot in a calf muscle will require complete rest for at least another two weeks.

Molby, however, is expected to return to the starting line-up after missing the victory over Oldham Athletic at Boundary Park 11 days ago because of a hamstring problem.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, will be able to pair Bould and Adams at the heart of his defence for only the fourth time this season following the former's recovery from a groin strain. "We have definitely missed Bould. He was probably our best player last season," Graham said. Campbell and Hillier have been included in the travelling squad but neither player can realistically expect to progress further than the substitutes' bench.

Branfoot's aim, page 25

Fixture pile-up is growing concern

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

A MIXTURE of wintry weather and the police's insistence on a ten-day interval between cup-ties and replays is threatening to cause football a fixture backlog which is further complicated by the demands of television.

Nottingham Forest are badly affected by the freeze. They are still in the FA, Rumbelows and ZDS cups, and their ZDS northern area semi-final against Leicester tonight has been postponed for a second time.

On Monday, they face a Rumbelows Cup fifth-round replay against Crystal Palace, which has already suffered one postponement. Should they fail to settle it — Rumbelows ties can go on indefinitely — they stand to lose £95,000. ITV has offered the winners a live slot for the semi-final against Tottenham Hotspur four days later, with £190,000 to be shared.

Forest's programme will become even more cluttered if they fail to finish either the Palace tie or require more than one match against Bristol City in the fifth round of the FA Cup.

Middlesbrough, too, must be dreading a snowy February. Their delayed Rumbelows Cup fifth-round replay against Peterborough was yesterday called off for the third time in a week, and will now take place on February 12, originally a semi-final date.

Middlesbrough play at Sheffield Wednesday next week in a delayed FA Cup fourth-round tie. Any replay will be on February 15, fifth round day.

The television companies will be hoping that Sunday, February 16, is fine. There will be two live FA Cup fifth-round ties — one on BBC and one on BSkyB — that day.

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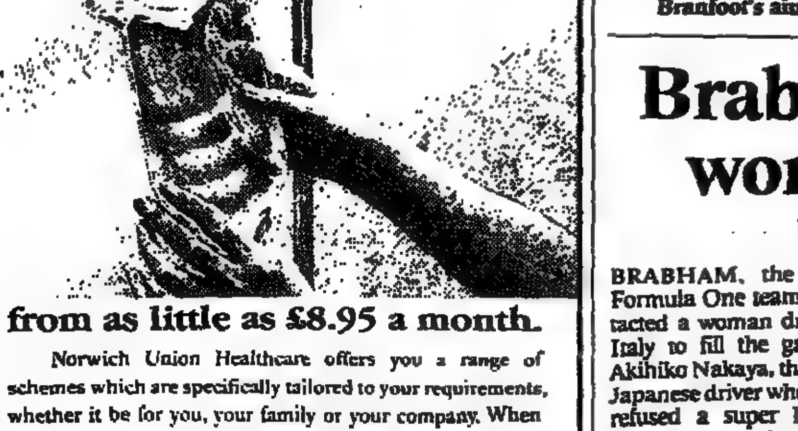

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Thumbs-up: Boycott appraises Gooch's form in the nets yesterday, looking over the shoulder of Micky Stewart in Auckland. Picture: Graham Morris

Boycott angers Botham

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN AUCKLAND

GEOFF Boycott's role within the England cricket regime was called into question yesterday when he incensed Ian Botham by criticising his attitude in a newspaper article.

Micky Stewart, the England team manager, exonerated Botham from Boycott's charge of unprofessionalism for missing a day's net practice. He also hinted that the Yorkshireman, used as a batting guru by several members of the team, may be asked to stay away from net sessions if the embarrassment escalates.

Boycott, who is a columnist for The Sun, yesterday attacked Botham for failing to practice here on Monday. I have been assured independently, however, by both Stewart and the captain, Graham Gooch, that Botham offered to turn up on an official day off but was told to rest. He played golf instead.

"I know how individuals practise best over a period of time," Stewart said. "That is part of my job, man management. I told Ian to stay away. He had done a lot of physical work in recent days, more than anyone in fact, and as his target is to be ready for the third Test, he has a lot more net sessions ahead of him."

Stewart was aware of Botham's reaction to the criticism. "He won't laugh it off," he said. "It is a difficult situation because Geoffrey's main job is as a journalist. I have discussed this with him before. We don't want to ask him to stay away, but it might come to that if players are going to be upset."

Gooch is in a sensitive position. He regularly consults Boycott himself and was coached by him at England's practice only yesterday. If strong feelings are to be aroused by Boycott, not for the first time in his cricketing life, Gooch has some unenviable mediating to perform.

Test preview, page 24
Tour averages, page 24

Ireland hopes improve as injured revive

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IRELAND will confirm today the fitness of the two London Irishmen, Simon Geoghegan and Jim Staples, for Saturday's five nations' championship match against England at Twickenham.

The Irish have already lost Noel Mannion from their replacements and yesterday Geoghegan, the wing, reported a slight groin strain. Staples, who has complained of a back injury, saw Mick Molloy, the team doctor, last night, but he is expected to play.

At a time when the greatest cohesion is necessary to pull Ireland from the despondency which defeat against Wales created, Ciaran Fitzgerald, the coach, is desperate to have his strongest squad for tomorrow's training in Dublin. However Geoghegan, who withdrew from the Welsh match because of a family bereavement, has not played since before Christmas and though he trained with the squad at the weekend, there is obviously doubt over his match fitness.

Mannion, the back-row forward from Lansdowne, has cricked his neck and his place is taken by Philip Lawlor, the Bective Rangers player capped against Argentina in 1990. Lawlor was due to play in Friday's B international against England, but Patrick Johns (Dublin University) plays No. 8 instead.

England's players for both senior and B matches assemble this evening and will train at the Stoop Memorial ground; the forwards will pay particular attention to their set-piece work which did not function efficiently until deep into the match against Scotland earlier this month.

The Rugby Football Union, mindful of the severe weather, has covered parts of the Twickenham playing surface but Bracknell Weather Centre has suggested that there should be no cause for alarm, with temperatures rising well above freezing during the daytime this week. There are contingency plans to move the B international from Richmond to Imber Court should the worst come to the worst.

France, who open their championship season against Wales in Cardiff, have confirmed the availability of Marc Cecillon, the Bourgoin back-row forward. Cecillon hurt his ribs in a club game on Sunday but an X-ray has shown no damage, though the match XV will not be confirmed until tomorrow, two days before the game.

This will become standard French practise this season and leaves open the possibility of three forwards from Begles, the champion club, making their championship debuts. Philippe Gimbert and Vincent Moscato played in the front row against Romania and the United States last summer but the lock, Christophe Mougeot, aged 29, has yet to appear in a major international.

League changes, page 22

Lagisquet pulled out of B team

BY CHRIS THAU

PATRICE Lagisquet, the French international winger, has had to withdraw from the French B team for the game against Scotland in Albi on Sunday because of differences over selection policy between the two unions.

According to a 20-year-old agreement between the countries, no capped players are to be selected for the fixture, unlike the French B games against England, Wales and Ireland, in which a limited number of capped players are allowed to take part.

Bill Hogg, the secretary of the Scottish Ruby Union, said: "We have had an agreement with France since 1972 that no international player was to be selected for the B game against Scotland. We received a call from the French federation secretary, Marcel Martin, in which he apologised for the confusion over the B selection.

"He explained that the new selection committee, appointed after the election of the new president, was unaware of the agreement with Scotland."

Hogg said the Scots had told the French that they understood their predicament and accepted that it would not be practical for them to drop all their internationals. But they did suggest that as many as possible should be left out of the team.

They will consequently be less than pleased to learn that despite having withdrawn Lagisquet, the French have included five full internationals in the side.

Jean-Claude Langlade, the centre, is joined by four caps in the pack, in Louis Armary, the prop, Gilles Bourguignon, the lock, Michel Courtiols, the flanker, and Christophe Deslandes, at No. 8.

FRANCE B: S Ougier (Toulouse); P Dernet-Salles (Pau), J-C Langlade (Nimes), H Couffignal (Colomiers), M Marsaing (Toulouse); F Velo (Grenoble), J Cazalbou (Toulouse); L Armary (Lourdes), J-P Genet (Racing CF), R Crespy (Brive), P Chamayou (Narbonne), G Bourguignon (Narbonne), H Miorin (Toulouse), M Courtiols (Begles), C Deslandes (Racing Club de France).

Brabham line up woman driver

BY NORMAN HOWELL

BRABHAM, the troubled Formula One team, has contacted a woman driver from Italy to fill the gap left by Akihiko Nakaya, their named Japanese driver who has been refused a super licence by Fisa, the sport's governing body. Without it he cannot take part in a Formula One race.

Nakaya's appeal will be heard "before the end of the week," according to a spokesman from Brabham, but meanwhile the Milton Keynes-based team has approached Giovanna Amati, who has been racing in F3000 for some years and whose best result was seventh place in the race at Le Mans last year.

If she does drive for Brabham, it would be he first time since 1978 that there has been a woman on the Formula One circuit. The last to try was Divina Galica, who did not have much luck. Before her another Italian, Lella Lombardi, raced with the British-based March team and scored a sixth place in the Spanish Grand Prix in 1975.

Amati undoubtedly has ability as F3000, in which she has been involved since 1988,

Amati: much to prove

has become more and more competitive. This year alone, at least six former F3000 drivers will be on the grid, the most notable being Michael Schumacher, Alessandro Zanardi and Christian Fittipaldi.

The problem for Amati will not be so much the driving, as finding the money to compete in the first place. She could have to lay her hands on a lot of it in order to see the season through with Brabham.

Nakaya brought a lot of yen with him.

Lotus blossoms, page 25

Russian sport appears to be locked in a power struggle

BY DAVID MILLER, CHIEF SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

A POWER struggle within Russian sport is under way, following decisions reached between Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, and Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, at the weekend. At stake is the survival of the ministry of sport.

Sources in Moscow reveal that the postponement, ten days ago, of Samaranch's visit was manipulated by bureaucrats who were anxious to avoid Yeltsin meeting the IOC leader, to protect the ministry, and that Yeltsin's alleged illness was an invention. Yeltsin implied as much when telling Samaranch that these people had since been dismissed.

Sports colleagues close to Vitaly Smirnov, the senior IOC member of the former USSR, said that within the space of a week it was possible to provide Yeltsin with the background to Olympic affairs. Ironically, without this postponement, Yeltsin would probably not have agreed to Samaranch's request for the establishment of the former USSR National Olympic Committee (NOC) as the official body for the new Russian republic.

In an interview published this morning by Sovietski Sport, the world's largest sporting daily, with a circulation of two million, Smirnov explains to the chief editor, Valeryi Kudriavtsev, that the national olympic committee is the competent and proper body to handle Olympic teams and administer Olympic sports; that this is not the job of a ministry of sport. This conflict is common throughout the world in most totalitarian or state-orientated countries.

The struggle during the coming months, leading up to the Olympic Games in Barcelona, will be between Smirnov, now backed by Yeltsin, and Vasily Machuga, chairman of the Russian republic's ministry of sport — the equivalent of the now defunct Gossport, ministry of the USSR.

At present, Machuga's ministry, the official title of which is the "committee for the development of the Olympic movement in Russia", has the budget, the buildings, and the influence. The agreement at the weekend between Yeltsin and Samaranch has pulled the rug from beneath the ministry.

A second struggle will be between Smirnov and Vladimir Vasin, president of a second, unrecognised Russian NOC. This body had already applied to the IOC for recognition, but now has no chance, as the executive board of the IOC will next week ratify the transfer of the ex-USSR NOC, under Smirnov and as approved by Yeltsin. It is significant that no officials from Vasin's organisation met Samaranch or accompanied him to the airport on his departure.

The key to the switch in principle, one that has existed since its inception under the direction of Stalin in the late 1940s — an all-powerful sports ministry — was accepted by Yeltsin during briefings last week. On the day that opposition was contriving to keep Samaranch away from Moscow, Yeltsin was appointing Shamil Tarpischev, the president of the Russian Tennis Federation, as his personal counsellor on sport. Tarpischev, a wholly sports-orientated official, was able to put Yeltsin in the picture; and Samaranch was able to convince the Russian president he was well advised.

Smirnov's interview with Sovietski Sport emphasises that the role of the ministry should be dealing with physical culture and grass roots sport outside the Olympic arena. There is the danger, of course, that the changes achieved by Samaranch at the weekend will survive only as long as Yeltsin survives.

The present schedule for the IOC's executive board is to consider formal recognition of NOCs from the 12 independent states of the Russian commonwealth, following a meeting of the presidents of those NOCs in Lausanne on March 9. Their recognition, as emphasised when Samaranch met Yeltsin, is dependent on the acceptance by all of a combined team from the former Soviet Union for the Olympic Games in Barcelona.

eland hopes improve as jured revive

gisquet pulls out of B team

ars to be struggle

هكذا من الأصل

Smile, you're on candid camera

Alan Hamilton meets Edward Mirzoeff, the man who spent a year filming the Queen for a television documentary, and reports on his snapshot of the sovereign

DAVID SECOMBE

So far and no further: Dr Carey is seen arriving for an audience on his enthronement as Archbishop of Canterbury — but the Queen's discussions with him remain secret

The Queen is at the Derby. Surrounded by family and entourage, she is watching the race on television in a room behind the royal box, anxiously following the progress of Generous, the horse she has drawn in the family sweepstake. The tension is electric; things are not going well at the final turn.

"Look, it's on the wrong leg, no wonder it can't go round the corner," she cries in alarm. "Oh, Piggott's on the rail." The strain becomes intolerable. Binoculars in hand and coat tails flying, the Queen dashes out to the balcony to watch the finish. Generous, in spite of trouble at the corner, has done it. "That's my horse, I've won the sweep," [illegible] old Head of the [illegible] jumping up and down [illegible] exquisite, [illegible] delight [illegible] the face of [illegible] be the world's [illegible] never to gamble [illegible] winnings [illegible].

Moments later [illegible] ington, [illegible] Capitol [illegible] to become the first British monarch to address both houses of Congress. [illegible] merry [illegible] Fellowes, her [illegible] Old Etonian private secretary [illegible] previous day [illegible] 4in, she [illegible] speech [illegible] dium [illegible] the [illegible] George Bush [illegible] appeared [illegible] world as a [illegible] purple hat.

Sir [illegible] smoothly assures his charge that this time all will be well. They enter the chamber to a standing [illegible] and the announcement of "Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh." She mounts the rostrum, surveys her audience over her glasses, and announces, deadpan: "I do hope you can see me today from where you are."

One further [illegible]. The Queen is in the [illegible] room at Buckingham Palace, preparing for a long morning of private audiences with ambassadors and other worthies. As the first is about to be ushered in, she turns to the door and claps her hands with enthusiasm; good [illegible], she is going to enjoy it.

Elizabeth R, to be shown on BBC1 next week to mark the 40th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne, is the most ambitious documentary attempt on her life for 23 years. In 1969 Richard Cawston made *Royal Family*, dated now but thought epoch-making at the time, in which he provided [illegible] unseen glimpses of the Queen's family life; the shot which lingers in the memory is of a kilted Duke of Edinburgh cooking sausages over a barbecue at Balmoral.

This time the emphasis is entirely different. Long discussions between the palace and Will Wyatt, the managing director of BBC Television, produced a scheme to examine a year in the Queen's working life, to show what a constitutional monarch in the late 20th century actually *does*. The original idea was Mr Wyatt's, but it was undoubtedly encouraged in its early stages by Sir William Heseltine, the Queen's recently-retired private secretary. Sir William brought a refreshingly Australian approach to his post as the monarch's closest adviser and, as a perceptive young palace press secretary, was instrumental in persuading his boss to open her door to *Royal Family*.

Then, as now, the monarchy had an image problem. In the Swinging Sixties it was perceived as growing increasingly remote, stuffy and removed from the lives of the majority. More urgently, there was a need to win over the recalcitrant Welsh to the imposition of yet another English Prince of Wales on them at Caernarfon. The royal family needed to be shown as real people who spent much of the time doing quiet things.

As a public relations gambit and a popular box office hit, the film was a roaring success, even if the lasting impression was that ordinary is exactly what they are not. Today's problem is almost the reverse: the monarchy is suffering the effects of the decade of Diana. Since the 1981 royal wedding, media attention on the private lives of royalty has been unremitting, merciless and largely unwelcome to its victims. The whole show has been reduced to soap opera level and thereby cheapened and trivialised, not least by some members of the cast, whose ideas of decorum and behaviour, while being partly funded from the public purse, are less than perfect.

> She still has the enthusiasm, and the love for her work, of a 25-year-old

To all this the Queen has remained dignified and untainted, but often demoted almost to the level of a bit-part player. The throne from which the show ultimately draws its legitimacy is clearly in need of a higher profile.

There is also a pressing need to prove value for money. During her last year in office Margaret Thatcher felt it necessary to set the Queen's civil list for ten years, to avoid any annual debate on the royal finances. At the same time, there is a muttering undercurrent of displeasure at representation without taxation; the Queen's almost total exemption from tax of all kinds is a position which, if seriously challenged, is likely to prove indefensible.

Elizabeth R asks no such direct questions, preferring a neutral fly-on-the-wall approach with minimal commentary which lets the pictures speak for themselves. Edward Mirzoeff is the producer-director, a veteran BBC film-maker whose office is wallpapered with Bafta awards and whose credits include documentaries on the Ritz, the Royal Green Jackets, Westminster school, and the memorable *Metroland* with the late Sir John Betjeman.

"The programme does not touch on the worth or otherwise of the institution; that was not our brief," Mr Mirzoeff says. "I wanted simply to show what the Queen does, and therefore what she is like."

Mr Mirzoeff and his crew — including a cameraman and a sound recordist who had worked on *Royal Family* — trailed the Queen about her work for a year, from investitures at the palace to the state visit to Washington, her first visit to Northern Ireland since 1977, and the Commonwealth conference in Harare, where she is seen exercising a little-suspected talent by engaging Nelson Mandela in a conversation on cricket.

Access was virtually unrestricted, although an occasional discreet nod from the star would indicate that it was time for the camera to withdraw. We see monarch and prime minister at their private weekly audience — on this occasion in a tartan-drenched sitting room at Balmoral — and hear John Major, hotfoot from foreign parts, reporting the imminent collapse of the Soviet Union. In *Royal Family* we saw Harold Wilson turning up at the palace, bidding his sovereign good evening, but not much else.

Some small corners remained off-limits. We see Dr George Carey arriving for an audience on his archiepiscopal enthronement, but an arrival is all we see: the sovereign's discussions with her senior clergy remain strictly private.

Although he had been assured by the palace that his subject had agreed fully to co-operate while leaving him in full editorial control, Mr Mirzoeff was unsure of his relations with his sovereign until he was in a media scrummage in Bonn, trying to capture a few moments of conversation between the Queen and the president of Germany. "I had to do my own clapperboard, and in the melée I caught my finger in it — very painfully. The Queen looked at me with a huge smile and said: 'You'll have to do better than that.' I knew we had broken through and established a rapport."

Rather less of a rapport was established with the American president while tracking his camera backwards at a palace cocktail party for G7 heads of government, he trod heavily on George Bush's toe. "How are you?" said the president. Exit film crew.

Endless familiar world faces flit in and out of the picture — Mr Mandela, Mr Major, Mr Bush, M. Mitterrand, presidents of Italy, Germany and elsewhere, underlining the fact that Elizabeth II is the most travelled, and probably the best-known, hereditary head of state in history. But most of the film is shot closer to home; was that the leader of Her Majesty's Opposition and Glenys we saw sharing some after-dinner hilarity with their sovereign in the library at Windsor?

The overall impression left by the film is that the woman who tends to wear a face of jowly Hanoverian dourness on formal occasions is nothing of the kind. The Queen comes across as having an enormous sense of humour — she needs it in a job like that — a sharp wit and an ability to laugh a great deal, not least at herself. But most of all, a tremendous zest for the job, down to dealing personally with many of the letters from her subjects that pour into the palace from the eccentric, the sad, the frustrated and the admiring.

Mr Mirzoeff, after a year at her shoulder, agrees. "She has the enthusiasm, and the love for her work, of a 25-year-old. In no way was any of it done for the benefit of the camera. It is hard not to be impressed by her enthusiasm, devotion and above all, her sheer professionalism.

"The dour look you see in public is very misleading. She can give the impression of being bored; the absolute opposite is true. Of course, like everybody else, she has her moods; she is bright on some days, a little sharper on others."

The star has matured into her role, and is far more at ease with it, than the rather stiff and uncomfortable central character in *Royal Family*. The film leaves endless questions unanswered, and a similar exercise undertaken 23 years hence might well portray a less happy picture. An ITV series on the monarchy promised for the autumn is likely to be rather more searching, and other programmes have already nibbled at such questions as why so few royal household employees are from the ethnic minorities.

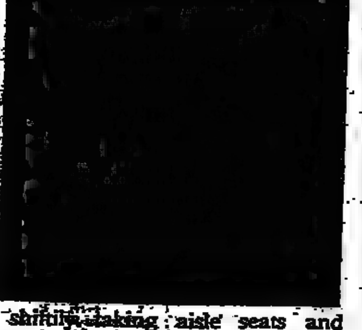
Elizabeth R is unlikely to loosen the beliefs of confirmed republicans in Britain, but the majority who still believe in the institution of monarchy will be much encouraged by the present incumbent's undiminished attachment to it. Like many a lesser post, monarchy is largely what the monarch makes it.

Elizabeth R will be shown on BBC1 on Thursday, February 6, at 8pm

Me and the Kia-Ora, alone at last

SINGLE LIFE

Lynne Truss sinks blissfully into a deep cinema seat



Having never given a second thought to the practice of diving into cinemas on the merest whim and spending two and a half hours in blissful solitary communion with a large screen and a sack of Opal Fruits, I was rather alarmed to discover recently that some of my friends think this marks me out as a desperate case.

"I went to see *The Fisher King* on Wednesday," I announce cheerfully. "On your own?" "Er, yes." "Oh dear," they say, and catch up my hand for a bout of sympathetic patting and smoothing. "I ate two boxes of fruit pastilles," I add, immediately. "Boy, you should have seen my tongue afterwards!" But they continue to shake their heads, with tears in their eyes. They think it's awful.

There is a stigma attached to it, you see; an atavistic idea that a woman sitting alone in the cinema is a woman self-evidently abandoned to the black dog of [illegible] sion, and therefore a proper object for public concern. [illegible] attitude reflect a rather [illegible] prejudice against the idea of women enjoying themselves [illegible] company? It is possible.

The real point [illegible] in any case, [illegible] cinema. If you [illegible] able there are many more surefire ways of achieving it; after all, sit in a doorway with a homeless person, lean over a parapet on Waterloo Bridge and gaze into the mesmerically choppy waters; go and see how long *Starlight Express* has been running. The impulse simply to buy a ticket and sit comfortably in a dark public place of entertainment seems by comparison a whoop of life-affirming joy.

What I like is the feeling of [illegible]mary. Hugging my possessions to my chest, sinking low in the seat, and prising great juicy wads of Opal Fruit away from my molars, I feel tremendously comforted by the reflection that I have vanished off the face of the earth. Nobody has a clue where I am. The phone won't ring; motorcycle messengers cannot pursue me. If it didn't cost £6.50, it would be like stepping through the wardrobe into Narnia. As I huddle down, I prepare to sneer at the now excruciatingly familiar advertisements. I like to imagine that my friends are all ringing each other in panic. "She's gone to earth again." "Damn." "Now there's nothing we can do but wait."

In old movie thrillers, of course, outlaws on the run frequently took refuge in cinemas. They would [illegible] shifting, taking aisle seats and removing their hats. They pretended to watch the picture, but kept a constant eye on the door, waiting for the inevitable pair of mackintoshed cops to appear, asking questions of the usherette. For them, the cinema was only a temporary haven; for me, it is total. While I may sometimes *feel* like a criminal, for instance, I have never yet been obliged to shoot my way out of an emergency exit after watching half a reel of the film.

But what is the alternative, anyway, to going alone? It is *to go with other people* — and are you telling me this is preferable? How many times has one agreed, casually, "Hey, let's do a movie!" only to discover that one's good friend Mike has never been properly cinema-trained? Me, I like to concentrate on the film; but for the universal Mike the cinema is a place where people are mysteriously quiet and sober-sided, where they have forgotten the value of voluble free-association, and need to be reminded of it. He is a restless kind of guy, and chatty. I mean, is this a funeral, or what?

"Doesn't that bloke remind you of *Phil*?" he will chuckle loudly, briefly standing up to point at Mickey Rourke. I ignore him, of course, and bite my scarf, hoping that my explicitly hostile body language will tell him to shut up. It doesn't. "Remind me to tell you later what Phil said at lunchtime," he adds, with an exaggerated nudge to the ribs. "It was such a scream." He then performs a nonchalant spot of overhead juggling, using a Malteser, a carton of Kia-Ora, and a fully extended umbrella.

On really bad days, moreover, it transpires that Mike also suffers strange lapses of concentration, rendering him incapable of following plot. "What happened to the blonde girl?" he suddenly enquires, at a moment of maximum plot interest. "Lynne, what happened to the blonde girl?" he repeats a little more loudly, thinking I haven't heard. "She died," I whisper back through clenched teeth, wishing I could too. "Really? When?" he asks. At which point I start to look around for the manager.

I suppose the tragic image of the single person in the cinema derives from the idea that they can't have any friends. Perhaps it is time for this assumption to be overturned — since it is more likely, in my opinion, that the lone cinema-goer is simply attempting to preserve the few friendships she has still got left. Personally I associate the plush seat and the bag of chews with nothing other than pleasure and freedom. For me, the really tragic aspect of cinema-going is to hear people say, "Oh yes, I wanted to see *JFK*, but unfortunately I couldn't persuade anyone to come with me." That's so *sad*.

TOMORROW
Private Life: John Diamond

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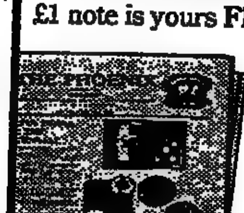

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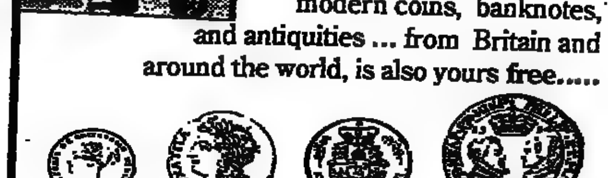

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THE COTTON CLUB: Stardust Productions B V. brings its black-jazz musical revue to the West End, following a British tour last year. The musical tells the story of the stars of the famous Cotton Club era, interspersed with all the well-known songs from the Thirties Harlem hotspot ("Minnie the Moocher", "Am I Blue?"). American Billy Wilson directs. Aldwych, The Aldwych, London WC2 (071-836 6404), 7pm

THE MASTER AND MARGARITA: With the Devil and his cat stalking around Moscow, Bulgakov's fantastic, sprawling novel poses problems for the adapter. The Company of Clerks takes up the challenge under the direction of Guy K. Retallack who successfully staged Bulgakov's *Ivan Vasilievich* at the BAC recently. The cast includes *Jonathon Coyne, Damian Dibben*, Charles Grant and Liam Halligan. Preview tonight; opens tomorrow. Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, SW11 (071-223 2223), 7.30pm

WALPURGIS NIGHT: A strong cast in Snoo Wilson's English version of the 1984 play by Erofeyev, set in a Moscow psychiatric hospital. Directed by young Lithuanian director Dalia Ibelhauptaite. Previews tonight and tomorrow; opens Friday. Gate, 11 Pembridge Road, London W11 (071-229 0706), 7.30pm.

BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: *Andrew Litton conducts* the orchestra in Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony and Haydn's Symphony No 92, in between which the orchestra's principal oboe player, Edward Kay, performs Vaughan Williams's Oboe Concerto. Wessex Hall, Poole Arts Centre, Kingland Road, Poole (0202 685222), 7.30pm

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by *Kari Knight*

***ROYAL LIVERPOOL* PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA:** Jean-Bernard Pommier conducts the orchestra in Debussy's *Printemps*, Hummel's Trumpet Concerto in E flat (with soloist Ian Balman), as well as Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*. Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool (051-709 3789), 7.30pm.

ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: Iona Brown conducts the players in works by Bach: the Brandenburg Concerto No 3 and Violin Concerto in E, together with Handel's Concerto Grosso in D, Op 6 No 5, and Brahms's String Quartet, Op 111. *Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank*, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

COSI FAN TUTTE: Johannes Schaaf's 1989 production of Mozart's opera returns as joyless as ever, despite the best efforts of the young Italian conductor *Carlo Rizzi in the pit*. The Royal Opera cast includes Margaret Marshall as Fiordiligi, Diana Montague as Dorabella, Kurt Streit as Ferrando, William Shimell as Guglielmo, Stafford Dean as Alfonso and Anne Howells as Despina. *Royal Opera House, Covent Garden*, London WC2 (071-240 1066/071-240 1911), 7pm.

XERXES: Nicholas Hytner's bright, clean production of Handel's *Xerxes* makes a triumphant return to the English National Opera repertoire, reviewed by Julia Hollander. A strong cast is headed by Ann Murray in the title role, with Yvonne Kenny as Romilda and Norman Bailey as Ariodates. Ivor Bolton conducts. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), 7pm.

TORI AMOS: The talented American singer/songwriter raises her profile here with her first British tour, beginning with two London concerts. Last week brought the release of a single, "*China*", taken from her new album *Little Earthworks*, which she will perform on BBC1's *Wogan* tonight. Shaw Theatre, Euston Road, London NW1 (071-388 1394), 7pm.

LUCIE RIE: A retrospective celebrating the 90th birthday of Britain's greatest living potter, Dame Lucie Rie. She was born in Vienna, and the earliest works were made there, reflecting influence from the Bauhaus. Since she fled to England in 1938 she has worked consistently at refining and perfecting her severe and meticulous style, often virtually eschewing colours. However, some of her most recent pots are among the most colourful. Crafts Council Gallery, 44a Pentonville Road, London N1 (071-278 7700). Tues-Sat, 11am-6pm, Sun, 2-6pm, opens Thurs until Apr 5.

ALISON LAMBERT: Classical art, especially sculpture, seems to be at the root of Lambert's work, which mostly takes the form of very large drawings in black and white. But the term "drawing" hardly does justice to the complexity with which each piece is built up, using collage and extra-heavy papers to produce an effect which is, in itself, almost sculptural. The vision and the technique are distinctive. Long and Ryle, 4 Islip Street, London SW1 (071-834 1434). Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm, Sat, 11am-5pm, until Feb 29.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London
■ House full, returns only
▨ *Some seats available*
□ Seats at all prices

▨ **BECKET:** Riveting performances from Derek Jacobi and Robert Lindsay in Anouilh's play on the relationship between Thomas à Becket and Henry II. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

□ **THE CABINET MINISTER:** Derek Nimmo and Maureen Lipman in a snob-bash, *largely unfunny Pinero comedy*. Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

□ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA:** Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory-play, set in 1930s Donegal. Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

□ **A DYBBUK FOR TWO PEOPLE:** Bruce Myers, Corinne Jaber play many roles in this Yiddish tale of the *supernatural. Accomplished, intense*. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 60mins. Final week

□ **AN EVENING WITH GARY LINEKER:** Sometimes droll look at the fantasies of a woman married to a soccer nut. Duchess, Catherine Street, WC2 (071-494 5075). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, *8pm and 8.45pm*. 130mins.

■ **THE GIGLI CONCERT:** Barry Foster is obsessed with making an Irish *millionaire (Tony Doyle) into the new* Gigli in Tom Murphy's powerful fable. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 160mins.

□ **THE LITTLE CLAY CART:** Disappointingly charmless version of what could have been an inspiring glimpse of classical Indian theatre. National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Today, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. 205mins

□ **ONCE A CATHOLIC:** Welcome return of Mary J. O'Malley's romping comedy about convent girls growing up between nuns and teddy boys. Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

□ ***ORPHANS:** Gripping psychological* thriller where a wealthy crook is kidnapped by two brothers: the RSC Fringe at its best. Watermans Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford (081-568 1176). Tues-Sat, 8pm

□ **PAINTING CHURCHES:** Sian Phillips (excellent) and Leslie Phillips as an elderly Boston couple, Josie *Lawrence their artistic daughter in a* quietly touching family play. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 120mins.

□ **PHANTOM OF THE OPERA:** Gleeful version of the old thriller: tunes by Offenbach, Verdi and Weber but not Lloyd Webber. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, *WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm*, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 150mins.

▨ **THE RESISTIBLE RISE OF ARTURO UI:** Emphatically menacing "Hitler" portrait by Antony Sher in Di Trevis's strong production of Brecht. National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. 170mins.

□ **THE RIDE DOWN MT MORGAN:** Arthur Miller's disappointingly one-sided play where Tom Conti argues *the case for bigamy*. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. 150mins

□ **SOPHISTICATED LADIES:** Twelve singer-dancers whirl through the music of Duke Ellington. Obvious routines cannot disguise the true rueful Duke. Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). *Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm*, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins.

□ **SPREAD A LITTLE HAPPINESS:** Down memory lane with the songs of Vivian Ellis: pleasantly English and all the lyrics are audible. King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (071-226 1916). Tues-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, Sun, 3.30pm. 150mins.

□ **A SWELL PARTY:** Four singers, two pianists in likeable tribute to Cole Porter's wit and wry melodies. Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). *Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm*, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 140mins.

□ **A TRIBUTE TO THE BLUES BROTHERS:** *Lively parade of tuneful* oldies. Good fun. Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri, Sat, 6.15pm and 9pm. 120mins.

LONG RUNNERS: □ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . ▨ Blood Brothers: Phoenix (071-867 1044) . □ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ▨ Carmen Jones: Old Vic (071-928 7616) . ▨ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) . □ Don't Dress for Dinner: Apollo (071-494 5070) . . ▨ Five Guys Named Moe: Lyric (071-494 5045) . ■ Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat: Palladium (071-494 5037) . . □ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . □ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . □ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . ▨ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . □ *Thunderbirds F.A.B. – The Next* Generation: Ambassadors (071-836 6111) . . □ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

NEW RELEASES

◆ **BLAME IT ON THE BELLBOY (12):** Mistaken identities in Venice. Impersonal, machine-tooled, old-fashioned farce. With Dudley Moore, Richard Griffiths, Patsy Kensit. Writer-director, Mark Herman. Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) *Oxford Street (071-636 0310)* Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915574) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

DRIVING ME CRAZY (12): Arrogant brat and working-class stepfather-in-waiting battle for supremacy on a cross-country journey. Stale, unlikeable comedy from John Hughes. With Ed O'Neill, Ethan Randall. *Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772)* Haymarket (071-839 1527).

◆ **JFK (15):** Oliver Stone's contentious, *electrifying, three-hour* drama about the Kennedy assassination. Kevin Costner as crusading D.A. Jim Garrison; a bustling supporting cast. Barbican (071-638 8891) Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannon *Fulham Road (071-370 2636)* Empire (071-497 9999) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Whiteleys (071-792 3332)

MA NUIT CHEZ MAUD (12): Eric Rohmer's serious but seductive moral tale, made in 1969. With Jean-Louis Trintignant, Françoise Fabian, plus much witty talk about philosophy. *Renoir* (071-837 8402)

CURRENT

◆ **THE ADDAMS FAMILY (PG):** Tasty feast of black humour, inspired by the 1960s TV spin-off from Charles Addams's macabre cartoons. Starring *Raul Julia, Anjelica Huston*, Christopher Lloyd; director, Barry Sonnenfeld. Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) *Odeons*: Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915683) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3332)

◆ **BILLY BATHGATE (15):** Hero-worshipping kid joins Dutch Schultz's gang in 1930s New York. Muffled, disappointing version of E.L. Doctorow's 1988 best-selling novel. Starring Dustin Hoffman, Loren Dean; director, Robert Benton. Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) *Odeons*: Kensington (0426 914666) Leicester Square (0426 915683) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

◆ ***COUPE DE VILLE (12):** Three* warring brothers travel cross-country in a 1954 Cadillac. Breezy blend of road movie, male-bonding comedy, and 1950s nostalgia. With Patrick Dempsey, Arye Gross, Daniel Stern; director, Joe Roth. Cannons: *Fulham Road (071-370* 2636) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031)

DELICATESSEN (15): French video whizzkids Jeunet and Caro's wonderfully bizarre fantasy about a houseful of tenants living above a cannibalistic butcher. Dominique Pinon, Marie-Laure Dougnac. *Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannons*: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Gate (071-727 4043) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366)

DERSU UZALA (U): Revival of Kurosawa's haunting, elegiac film exploring human values in a Siberian forest. 1975. ICA Cinema (071-930 3647).

◆ **FRANKIE AND JOHNNY (15):** Short-order cook (Al Pacino) courts a wary waitress (Michelle Pfeiffer). Synthetic adaptation of Terrence McNally's play. Director, Garry Marshall. Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 *9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636)* MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) Whiteleys (071-792 3332).

LIEBESTRAUM (18): Mike Figgis's dark, wild tale of love, death and cast-iron architecture. Intoxicating at first, but yawns creep in. Starring Kevin Anderson, *Pamela Gidley, Kim Novak*. Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6861) MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031).

***LIFE IS SWEET (15):** Mike Leigh's* droll, farcical, award-winning comedy about a North London family's ups and downs. Starring Alison Steadman. Double-billed with *Riff-Raff*. Premiere (071-439 4470).

LITTLE MAN TATE (PG): How and how not to rear a child prodigy. An engaging young player (Adam Hann-Byrd) and sensible direction (Jodie Foster) easily offset the facile moments. Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353).

MATADOR (18): Murder, high fashion, and anti-Catholic jibes from the inimitable Pedro Almodóvar; made in 1986. *Assumpta Serna and Nacho Martinez* as a chic lawyer and bull-fighter obsessed with love and death. Metro (071-437 0757).

MERCI LA VIE (18): Time-hopping adventures of two rampaging girls (Charlotte Gainsbourg, Anouk Grinberg). Strained variation on Bertrand Blier's first hit, *Les Valseuses*. Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742/3743) Lumière (071-836 0691).

***MISSISSIPPI MASALA (15):** Indians* displaced from Uganda to Mississippi fret over race and young love. Sharp insights, but soggy at the centre. Starring Sarita Choudhury, Denzel Washington. Director, Mira Nair. Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

PROOF (15): A blind man's photographs bring emotional complications. Intriguing entertainment from new Australian director Jocelyn Moorhouse. With Hugo Weaving, Genevieve Picot. Renoir (071-837 8402)

RIFF-RAFF (15): Welcome return of Ken Loach's marvellous, scruffy "slice of life" portrait of a building-site crew, voted "European Film of the Year". Double-billed with *Life Is Sweet*. Premiere (071-439 4470).

TOTO THE HERO (15): Jaunty, absurdist comedy about youth, old age and life's disappointments from talented new Belgian director Jaco van Dormael. Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865)

Lonely hearts club man

THEATRE

Talking Heads
Comedy

DONALD COOPER

Gamely impervious: Patricia Routledge as Miss Scofield

ALAN BENNETT had trouble *satisfactorily filling the* big, broad canvas of his *Madness of George III*, but there are few to match him when it comes to the subtler varieties of sketchbook portraiture. *Talking Heads consists of three monologues* originally seen on television, and at least two are collector's pieces. The late Joe Orton had an equally acute ear for the nuances of lower-middle-class gentility; *but contempt lessened* his objectivity and clouded his judgement. Bennett's blend of the deadly and the kindly, mockery and generosity, is surely unique.

Some may feel that he offers them too much knowing evocation of the minutiae of everyday life in Batley, Otley, *Shipley or Leeds*. Bennett's is a world where women with names such as Mrs Brunskill or Miss Trotter prissily gossip about the medical problems of men with names such as *Mr Creswell or Mr Ridgwood. Yet* thus he defines the horizons — social, mental, emotional — that hem in his people. He is the bard of respectable desolation, never more effective than *in the playlet he wryly calls A Woman of No Importance*.

Patricia Routledge plays Miss Scofield, whose private *life* begins and ends with chummy intimacies ("Pauline's mother's rash has infected her elbows") exchanged over lunch-time salads in the office canteen. "Oh, we did laugh" is her constant refrain; but it becomes increasingly hollow when the jokes are occurring in a doctor's surgery or before a serious *operation or in what is presumably* the terminal cancer ward. Before long she is slumped in a wheelchair, her face barely visible over the blanket, like *the half-buried Winnie in* Beckett's *Happy Days*; and, like Winnie, she remains impervious to her circumstances. "Sister was pleased, she said I'd fetched up more phlegm than anyone else on the ward": funny, and not at all funny.

Routledge plays the piece beautifully, injecting tiny hints of petulance *and pain into the gamely upbeat flow*. Bennett himself, sallow and slouched in a green cardigan, is almost better as Graham, a middle-aged child whose dependence on a dependent mother ("give me your teeth and I'll swill them for you") is threatened by *the appearance of a beau from* her distant past. This time, the refrain is "I didn't say anything", repeated again and again as a world built on tea-cosies, bedjackets and electric blankets begins to totter. The verbal options for Bennett's people are platitudes, banalities or silence; *but they* conceal plenty of baffled emotion.

The last of the monologues, all of them directed by Bennett with characteristic unobtrusiveness, brings *Routledge back on stage as a compul*sive letter-writer whose missives, it turns out, are often of the poison-pen variety. She may start the play amusingly enough, haranguing a *crematorium for allowing the under*taker's men to smoke behind the scenes; but when she mistakes the parents of a girl dying of leukaemia for child-abusers, the laughter stops and the courts move into action. She finds herself in prison and, paradoxically, happier than she has ever been.

For the first time, her busybodying becomes constructive and wins her friends. This conclusion owes less to probability than to the author's desire to make an ironic point; but it still sums up the evening. *What must* everyday loneliness be like in Bennett country when Holloway *stands* for freedom and fun?

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

JAZZ/POP

Lou Rawls
Albert Hall

THE voice of Lou Rawls is one of the most easily recognisable in popular music. Warm, resonant and in vigorous shape after more *than three* decades of performing, it is uniquely attractive. But perhaps his very richness of tone has led us to see him in too mellow a light, overlooking his *ability to cross musical boundaries*.

His hit records on this side of the Atlantic, during the Seventies, were identified with the fruitier end of disco: "Lady Love", "You'll Never *Find" and "I'll See You When I Get* There". But although he still sings them, they should not overshadow his ability to spar with some of the most demanding jazz instrumentalists and *to sing urban blues like the true son* of Chicago that he is.

Dapper, relaxed and urbane, he fronted a five-piece band on Monday at the *Albert Hall. The excellence of* their musicianship must have contributed to the cordiality. Jeff Colella added synthesizer and organ colourings to his intelligent piano accompaniment: *Omaje Murray*, on vibraphone, congas and other percussion, was not audible as often as he ought to have been. Ken Elliot on drums (exemplary brushwork) and *Curtis Robertson Jr on bass guitar* were notable for the way in which their skills were selflessly applied to the smooth delivery of the songs, rather than solo displays.

The most prominently featured player was David T. Walker, on guitar, whose professorial appearance belied the gut-bucket tones and string-scrubbing playing style he *employed to such good effect*. The headliner offered him frequent opportunities to flesh out the obviously well established arrangements.

As on his new retrospective album, *The Legendary Lou Rawls*, the star covered all the musical bases. From the frankly sentimental medley of "The Way You Look Tonight", "Wil*low Weep For Me*", "*It Never Entered* My Mind" and "We'll Be Together Again", to the high-kicking swagger of "Fine Brown Frame", and the final encore of "Hoochie Coochie Man", *Rawls was always superbly in control*. In measured and moving accounts of "Unforgettable", "St James Infirmary", "Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood", "Tobacco Road" and *"Bring It On Home To Me" (he was a* session singer on the Sam Cooke recording), he did not miss a beat or make a false move.

Riding the rhythms, deploying a verbal facility which can be seen as spanning the gap between "vout" and "rap", and in his vocal improvisation the entertaining equal of anyone from Betty Carter to Bobby McFerrin, the singer seemed to be challenging the audience and his ruefully mentioned record companies to decide where his talents are best applied: jazz, rhythm 'n' blues, standard ballads or pop. Never mind the category, simply enjoy the sound.

TONY PATRICK

Lou Rawls: dapper song stylist

Making authentic waves: the LPO's Franz Welser-Möst

CONCERT

St Matthew Passion
Festival Hall

ONE of the most positive musical developments of the past decade has been the spread of period-instrument practice into the way symphony orchestras play Bach, Haydn and Mozart: positive both in showing that the 18th century need not be a closed book to what are still the great central performing ensembles, *and also in* insisting that there is more to authenticity than gut strings and boxwood oboes. It is a development to which both sides have contributed: *specialists like Roger* Norrington, Frans Brüggen and Nikolaus Harnoncourt in their work with the Philharmonia or the Concertgebouw, and generalists like Simon Rattle in performing Haydn with his own Birmingham orchestra or with the London Philharmonic. Last Saturday *another step was taken by the LPO in* a remarkable performance of the *St Matthew Passion* under its music director Franz Welser-Möst.

What was perhaps most obviously *remarkable* was the speed — under two-and-a-half hours for the entire work — but then not so much the *speed itself as the way it was attained* and what it meant. In a short interview printed in the programme, Welser-Möst spoke of making "the whole piece . . . one big wave", which is a fair description of what he achieved, except that he did not so much "make" *it a wave as let it be one*, with the thrust and the wholeness coming from within the music.

The effective placing of the speed, then, was more important than zipping along: *making the tempo the* source of the music rather than something to be applied to a neutral spatial structure. This, surely, is a lesson that has come out of the 18th-century orchestras, *for last Saturday's* performance had a similar kind of athletic looseness and buoyancy, with at the same time an onrush, a pace kept up in each number right to the *double bar, and then* beyond, except where a giant cadence comes as a buffer to stop the engine and send a jolt through the last few bars as they hurtle towards a close.

The result was not an orderly sequence of monuments, of arias and chorales set in a desert of recitative, but indeed of something whole and in motion. And partly that must have been because the recitative was not just setting up what came next but necessitating it. Every recitative had Welser-Möst *maintaining* a beat, the engine readying itself; it also helped that Kurt Azesberger was such an alive Evangelist, using rhythm and register to intense and often poignant purpose, to make this a fluent, coloured, human narrative.

The light texture and the agility of the performance also owed much to the singing of the Mozart Choir from Welser-Möst's home town of Linz. Whether or not this large-scale import was intended to show the London Philharmonic Choir what it should be aiming for, the sound was un*commonly fresh and immediate*, the feeling in the chorales airborne, even if to some extent that was because the men of this young choir were far less audible than the women.

A useful lightness came, too, from the other soloists, even from Jeffrey Black, a Jesus of baritone colour, with his dignity more earned than stated. The four aria singers improved as the *performance went on, as if respond*ing to the spreading success. John Mark Ainsley was not at his most appealing, and Olaf Bär hit his stride, wonderfully, only in his last aria, but *Lynne Dawson was bright*, clear and dewy, and Anne Sofie von Otter gave a marvellous spring-cleaning to "Erbarme dich", displacing the sentimentality in favour of pure, simple flow.

Of course the tempo was important here, and the luminosity of the orchestral playing, and especially the spectacular, breathtaking grace and ease of the violin obbligato played by Maciej Rakowski. Elsewhere in the performance there may have been *occasional* problems (the viola da gamba did not speak well, and this may be one area of resistance in the project of authentic-symphonic Bach), but the brilliance of this *movement will be remembered* as a talisman, along with the flowing, unsolemn bass all through, and such choice pleasures as the staccato dabs of oboes, chamber organ and strings together, or the long lines made by the pairs of oboes alone. There was something new in the air.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

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PROFILE

Double debut for a classless sentimentalist

Frances Barber, at the National Theatre for the first time, talks to Matt Wolf about her roles in Tennessee Williams's *The Night of the Iguana* and George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*

These days, Frances Barber's diary is brimming with work, but since when has it been otherwise? Over much of the past decade, the dark-haired, livewire actress has been a frequent presence on stage, television and film. Her 1984 Royal Shakespeare Company engagement as the consumptive Marguerite in Pam Gems's *Camille*, one of three plays she acted that season in repertory, went on to give her top billing in its West End transfer. Then she followed that achievement with major roles in *A Zed and Two Noughts*, Peter Greenaway's cinematic essay in zoological rot, and in Stephen Frears's *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*, playing the fleshpot Rosie.

That surely should have been an open invitation to Hollywood, but such attention has yet to be paid. Instead, Barber, now 33, is making an overdue debut at the National Theatre, appearing — typically — not in one role but two.

"I find it hard to turn things down," Barber says, during a lunch break from rehearsing Tennessee Williams's *The Night of the Iguana*, in which she inherits Bette Davis's 1961 role as the blowsy hotel owner, Maxine. (Ava Gardner played the part in John Huston's 1964 film.) "Coming from a working-class background, I always fear I won't be offered anything else, and that never seems to leave me. I feel as if I get a bit woolly, and a bit lethargic, if I'm not very busy."

Not long after *Iguana* opens, Barber re-enters rehearsals at the National, this time playing Eliza Doolittle to Alan Howard's Higgins in Howard Davies's production of *Pygmalion*. A case of repertory chalk and cheese? Barber isn't sure.

"Yes, the two parts are completely different; I couldn't have a more diverse programme," she says, comparing Shaw's gradually refined cockney to Williams's brassily sensual young widow. "But then again, Maxine is guileless and vulgar, and Eliza is guileless and vulgar at the start," she continues, finding similarities where first she found differences. "Maxine is shrewd, Eliza is shrewd, and she turns into somebody with a great sense of what is morally right."

Maxine marks Barber's second experience of Williams, following a 1987 stage run at the Leicester Haymarket as Alma Winemiller in *Summer and Smoke*; it is an actor-writer partnership on which she thrives. "I love Williams," she says, aware that not all her countrymen feel the same.

"I think English people on the whole still have a problem with Williams. He probably appears sentimental, and you know how we don't like that. It's ugly and crude; we prefer cynicism. He is a great sentimentalist; but what's wrong with that? English audiences find that genuinely embarrassing because everybody does wear their emotions right on their sleeve. With Maxine, there's no subterfuge: she's the least subtle character I've ever played.

> 'If you grew up without books and you enter a world full of literature, art and music, it's not possible *not* to feel this gulf'

"The way he writes for women!" continues Barber, whose other stage roles have ranged from Viola in a Kenneth Branagh-directed *Twelfth Night* to new plays by Terry Johnson (*Imagine Drowning*) and Clare McIntyre (*My Heart's a Suitcase*) at the Hampstead and the Royal Court, respectively. "More than Shakespeare Williams has such empathy, and he makes his women, people like Hannah (played at the National by Eileen Atkins), who would be regarded as a Nantucket spinster by another playwright, sexy, passionate, warm and wise, and all of those things in the most unlikely character. Then, as you begin to understand, you think, yes, that's what women are like. It's not that they fall in to one of two categories — no bosoms or big bosoms. They're all sorts of things."

Consider Maxine, for example. An image of the flesh set against Hannah's embodiment of the spirit, the character offers a surprising voice of cool in Williams's sweaty Mexican hothouse. "It's Maxine's pragmatism," says Barber, "which Williams had a great dose of, that says, 'We've got to settle for something; we've got to settle for this'.

"We're not prepared for a life full of trials and tribulations — of bereavements, disappointments — and when it hits you in the face, people do fall apart. He's suggesting it's part of your duty to endure, and then enjoy the moments that aren't so difficult."

Eliza Doolittle strikes an even more resonant chord, since her education in many ways parallels Barber's own. "She says to Higgins, 'You brought me out of that life and it's your responsibility, so don't you dare be so cruel as to send me back.' Now I particularly empathise with that because coming from a council estate, you can't ever go back to what you were when you were pushed out into the world.

"Once you've been educated and moved on and learnt to understand wine lists and French restaurants, it would be patronising to pretend you didn't have all that. If you grew up as I did in a world where there aren't any books and you then enter a world full of literature and art and music, it's not possible *not* to feel this huge gulf between where you began and where you are."

Barber grew up, the fourth of seven children, on a Wolverhampton estate: her father was a bookmaker and her mother, who died last year, a school cook. While some working-class parents can resent their children's efforts towards self-improvement, Barber's lent only encouragement.

"They urged and pushed me into moving away; they wanted me to go," she recalls. "Almost as I was born, I was urged 'to better' myself. What they underestimated or perhaps never realised was how then that gulf would emerge.

"It was hard at first but these days it's much easier, because I feel less emotional about it: I can detach myself a little more, and they have grown used to the fact that it can't ever be as it was." It helps, too, as she points out, that her move through society has been shared by most of her siblings "to some degree or other". One brother owns a steel works: another is director of a company.

Barber, though, remains the only family member to have chosen a life in the arts, having read English and drama at Bangor. "It was the obvious thing from before I ever went away," she says. "At school it was the one thing I felt I could show off at, and in all the school productions and poetry readings, I was always showing off.

"I loved the literature of drama as well as performing it so it wasn't a surprise to anybody, and certainly not to me. I think I was bloody lucky, but that's something else: whether it's fate or character."

Still, Barber acknowledges that class issues cut too close to the bone not to personalise a work such as *Pygmalion*. "Most actresses, playing Eliza, breathe a sigh of relief at the middle-class passages when they can finally speak in the way they do, even though for her it was always a struggle and when she does speak like a lady, it still is.

"I'm not suggesting for a moment I have to remind myself how to speak now; I don't, and I'm going to have trouble with the cockney because that's not what I am. Even so, I won't feel relief at the middle-class sections, since I have to work on those as well. That's about the only thing", she says, without a trace of false modesty, "that I have on my side."

● The Night of the Iguana *is previewing at the Lyttelton (071-928 2252) from Friday and opens on February 6. Pygmalion begins previews at the Olivier (071-928 2252) on April 3 and opens on April 9*

DENZIL MCNEELANCE

Frances Barber on her childhood: "Almost as I was born, I was urged to better myself."

ARTS BRIEF

Short roll

BRADFORD may seem an unlikely place in which to premiere a big new film. But the Rolling Stones' new movie *At The Max* has been shot in the new giant Imax format, and there is only one cinema screen in Britain large enough to show it: at the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television in the Yorkshire town. It opens there on February 14.

Meanwhile, the speculation continues over whether bass-guitarist and oldest member Bill Wyman will remain in the Rolling Stones. If he does decide to leave the group, singer Mick Jagger has joked that he will take over on bass. "I will do it myself," he is reported as saying. "How hard can it be?"

House party

PREVIEWS start on March 11 for what will surely be the most star-studded theatre production in the West End this season. It is Trevor Nunn's new staging of *Heartbreak House*, with a cast including Paul Scofield as Captain Shotover, Vanessa Redgrave as Hesione Hushabye, Felicity Kendal, Daniel Massey, Imogen Stubbs, David Calder, Oliver Ford Davies and Joe Melia.

This illustrious gathering will be sharpening the show at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford for ten days from February 26, before the producer Duncan Weldon brings them into the Theatre Royal, Haymarket.

Last chance...

THE sunniest of all ballets must be *La Fille mal gardée*, Frederick Ashton's inspired reinterpretation of a story that has lived on stage since 1789. Its appeal lies in the way it combines theatrical tradition (including the robust humour of the old English music-halls) with eternal human feelings, true romance with wild comedy. This season's last performances by the Royal Ballet are at Covent Garden (071-240 1066) this weekend, with Viviana Durante and Tetsuya Kumakawa in the lead roles on Friday, Fiona Chadwick and Irek Mukhamedov on Saturday evening.

TOMORROW IN LIFE AND TIMES
Films of the week: *Hors la vie*, *Black Robe* and *My Girl*

Getting down to psychology

OPERA

English National Opera has a new production of Humperdinck's *Königskinder*. Hilary Finch tells the story behind it

Bird watching: Geraldine Farrar as the Goose Girl in the 1910 premiere of Humperdinck's *Königskinder* at the New York Metropolitan Opera

In 1986 the curtain rose at the Wexford Festival on an operatic rarity which was to send critics into a spate of superlatives. Its word-setting, they said, was as subtle as Strauss; there were shades of *Lohengrin* and *Parsifal* and enough Nietzsche between the lines to feed a fistful of doctorates. "Can we afford to ignore music of such extraordinary beauty?" asked *Opera* magazine. This was Humperdinck's "other opera": not "the comparatively homespun *Hansel and Gretel*" as the intoxicated punters now viewed his masterpiece, but *Königskinder*, or *The Prince and the Goosegirl*, a darker tale by far.

Developed from a germ of Grimm, it had been fed on such staple nutrients of the German folk soul as the poisoned loaf, the Beggar, the Woodcutter and the *Spielman*, or Minstrel: the figure of Music itself. Puccini had written a letter wishing well its New York Met premiere in 1910: *Königskinder* replied by apparently eclipsing a contemporaneous run of *La fanciulla del West* with Caruso and Toscanini, and being pronounced the most important opera since *Parsifal*.

What few members of either the New York or the Wexford audience may have known was that behind the opera lay a melodrama, also by Humperdinck, which had pioneered the use of *Sprechgesang* (a vocal technique between speech and song) 15 years before Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*. And that behind the melodrama was the shadowy figure of a writer called "Ernst Rosmer".

Rosmer, who wrote the experimental play from which the libretto of *Königskinder* was born, was in fact Elsa Bernstein. She was a turn-of-the-century German writer — an Ibsenite and protégée of the Wagners — who played a lively part in the artistic circles around Strauss, Hofmannsthal, Thomas Mann and Rilke. She was *the* literary hostess of Munich. Bernstein and her sister fell foul of the Nazi race laws and were sent to the concentration camp at Theresienstadt. Her sister did not return: Elsa, miraculously, survived and died in Hamburg in 1949 at the age of 80.

Peter Skrine, professor of German at Bristol University, who is writing a book about Bernstein, sees in her plays (*Wir drei*, *Dämmerung*, *Königskinder*, *Nausikaa*) the work of a neglected neo-Romantic to be reckoned with, one whose "dramas of the unspoken" reflect the contemporary desire to rediscover consciously inner spiritual truths which past ages experienced subconsciously. Nicholas John, English National Opera's dramaturge, sees references to the Symbolists and *Pelléas* in France, to the Celtic twilight and Yeats in Britain, to the canvases of Böcklin and Munch.

Humperdinck came on the scene because he was working with Wagner on *Parsifal* at the same time as Bernstein's father was stage manager at Bayreuth. After the success of *Hansel and Gretel*, he asked Humperdinck to provide the music for his daughter's new play, *Königskinder*. The composer took two years over it, and in the process created a unique way of setting words, with rhythm and pitch indications for the actors to aim at. The melodrama was acclaimed at the Royal Court in 1897 with Cissie Loftus as the Goosegirl and Dion Boucicault as Prince and director.

When a new opera was needed for the Met 13 years later, Humperdinck simply reworked a piece to which he was particularly attached. It has been Nicholas John's and David Pountney's task to disentangle the complex prosody of both versions and create an English text for ENO's new production, which opens tomorrow.

Some have alleged that Humperdinck's revised libretto cuts out all the sexual and psychological subtext of Rosmer's original. Nicholas John disagrees. "In comparing the two, line by line, it became clear to us that the operatic text is just a skilful reduction, and in no way removes the work's erotic overtones." *Königskinder* as melodrama appeared in 1897: Freud's *Interpretation of Dreams* was published in 1899. *Königskinder* as opera was premiered in 1910: Freud's *Theory of the Subconscious* emerged in 1912.

Just the sort of thing that ENO, under Peter Jonas's management, continues to find irresistible. "It was Peter's great passion for Humperdinck which made it happen," says John. But Pountney promises not to do an excessively symbolic production of what is also a strongly narrative piece. Whatever levels of the subconscious may or may not be reached, *Königskinder* will be a fitting swansong for Jonas, before he goes to Munich, doubtless one day to realise the definitive *Königskinder* on its home ground.

● Königskinder *or* The Prince and the Goosegirl *opens tomorrow at the Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), at 7.30pm.*

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TELEVISION REVIEW

Peter Barnard

Sorry tale of multiple wrongs

There is anniversary television all around us. They love a date, do the television folk, they slaver over all that archive footage intercut with talking heads looking back, very often explaining to us which of their last six mistakes seemed like a good idea at the time. The test is whether the device tells us anything new and the test is often failed.

Last night a BBC 1 *Inside Story* special half passed. Remember Bloody Sunday looked back at a watershed in the unhappy affairs of Northern Ireland, the last Sunday in January 1972 when paratroopers went in to the Bogside district of Londonderry (as the Unionists call it), or Derry (as it is to the Republicans). By the end of what had begun as a civil rights march, 13 people were dead, killed by army bullets.

A tragedy, then. At best, if that is the word, three or four of the dead were armed. At worst, none of them were. If there is a fate worse than death, then the effect that Bloody Sunday had on Ulster is that fate. Whereas the arrival of troops in 1969 had brought the Catholic communities, at least in Belfast, out to cheer, Bloody Sunday immeasurably harmed the army's reputation and appears to have driven many Catholic youths into the arms of the IRA.

Those are the facts, insofar as anything can be said to be factual in a context where all statements are propaganda and all propaganda is suspect. *Inside Story* told us little that was strictly new, but it did do something important in providing, for the first time, evidence from the soldiers' own lips that this was a sorry affair.

The context is of course vital. Whatever name you give the city, Free Derry was what the militant Republican elements called it. Their rule prevailed. Clearly this had to stop.

The Parachute Regiment, we heard, was "trained to be aggressive". So was that the right group of men to police a civil rights march? Or was that just the excuse for sending them in?

Answer comes there none. But a company sergeant major spoke compellingly of chaos once the troops went in, of a lack of discipline, of (by implication) wild shooting. He told of one trooper who fired 13 rounds at a window behind which he claimed there was a sniper, yet the trooper never so much as cracked the window's glass. Above all, the evidence that the army was fired upon before it fired is flimsy.

And yet . . . this is surely a civil war. I have been in Nicaragua and El Salvador and, briefly, in Beirut, and there is a truism about all such conflicts, which is that if you set foot on the street where the conflict is taking place you are taking a great risk. This does not excuse indiscipline but there was a riot in the Bogside that day, a peaceful march partially hijacked by the forces of evil, as such marches so often are.

There was also, on the face of it, evil behaviour by the British. A teenage boy, wounded, is being taken to hospital in a car. An army patrol stops the car and diverts it to a barracks, where the boy is, allegedly, treated. He dies and when photographs of his body are produced there are nail bombs in his pockets. The people who put him in the car had first searched him for identification. They found neither identification nor nail bombs.

The man who told this anecdote was not then active in the IRA but later joined it because of what happened on Bloody Sunday. There is no excuse for the army's excesses, but neither are such excesses excuse to join a terrorist organisation. Bloody Sunday was a shameful episode, but two wrongs do not make a right.

Television listing, page 14

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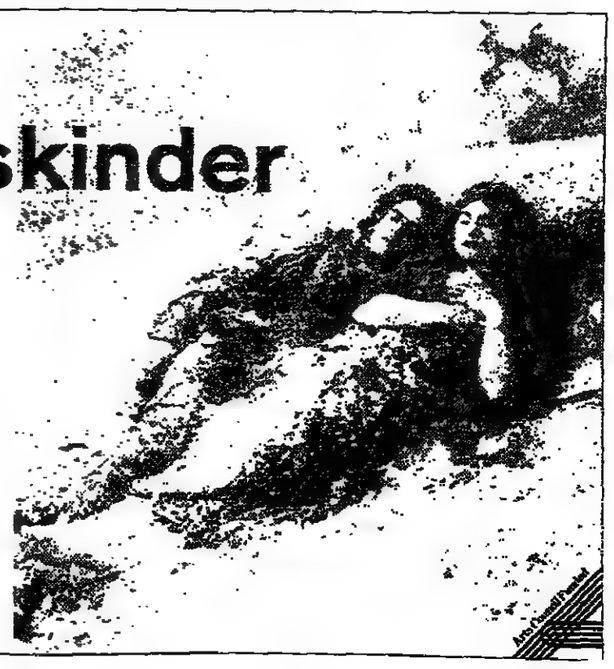


A heroine for local heroes

The new director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, will launch a handbook for country campaigners

When a group of concerned lovers of the countryside united in 1926 to stem the unchecked flow of new houses on roads leading out of towns and cities, they showed a vision of the environment years ahead of its time.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England, 65 years later, remains unafraid of breaking new ground. Its newly-appointed director is at 33, the youngest person to hold the post.

Fiona Reynolds takes over this independent lobbying group when grassroots support is at its strongest yet, with 46,000 members alarmed at the destruction of English rural landscapes.

Among those who will grow up with 20th-century environmental legacies is Alice, her 14-month-old daughter. For Alice and her brother or sister, due at the end of March, Ms Reynolds wants the countryside to still feel like the countryside when they are able to visit it from their north London, home.

"I want them to go to Devon and feel that it is different from Norfolk or Northumberland. Somebody asked me why we decided to have children, as I was so absorbed in my career. It was an expression of optimism and a belief that there is a future she is going to be part of. You have to believe in the future to do the work we do."

Ms Reynolds was brought up in Warwickshire. She gained a first in geography and land economy at Cambridge, and has been with the council since 1987, lately as assistant director. Previously she worked for the Council for National Parks, and admits to a hankering to escape from London often. Last summer she and Bob Merrill, her husband, strode across Snowdonia, Alice in a harness on her father's back.

To be merely pessimistic over the destruction of hedgerows and ancient woodland, the forays of developers into the green belt and the impact of the car and new roads, would be too easy. Environmental difficulties grow each year, but the council has had some significant influence.

Members inspired the first official discussions on setting up national parks. More recently, tax incentives for people planting destructive coniferous forests were changed after a council campaign. Its criticism of the common agricultural policy is being listened to at last. Ms Reynolds wants to communicate some of her optimism at grassroots level, to stop members from feeling that there is nothing they can do to stop the steamrollers of big business or unsympathetic civil servants.

In March she is launching a booklet giving advice on how to campaign against local plans which may ruin rural landscapes.

Focusing on local and national matters as part of a global environmental perspective is a theme close to her heart. Conscious of the United Nations conference on environment and development, to be held in Brazil in June, Ms Reynolds thinks Britain needs to clean up its own act before other countries will listen to it telling them what to do.

"What price the tropical rainforests if we can't even protect our own hedgerows?" she says. "You can't just say we will reduce carbon dioxide emissions unless you have policies at local level to support that. We find the present government's policy on this unacceptable. And the EC is making more and more economic and environmental policy. We want to be in there, influencing it.

"You should not see countryside considerations as a luxury."

The council, which has a duke, several lords, sirs and retired colonels in its ranks, has been criticised for preserving the countryside for the well-off by objecting to buildings which could provide employment and cheap homes in villages.

Ms Reynolds refutes this: "We have never tried to stop development and change, but to guide it in a positive way. We probably say 'yes' more than we say 'no'."

She admits to believing that the council was brave to appoint her, although her maternity leave will be short — six to eight weeks if all goes well — and she intends to be in touch during that time.

"I am very conscious of the trust they have put in me. I am comfortable with having full-time child care and working in an intensive way as I do. I find it very rewarding."

CAROLINE MEAD

'We have never tried to stop development, just guide it'

Is Britain ready for her wares? Buxom blonde bimbettes are absent from Candida Royalle's films, and breast implants are 'politically incorrect'

Sex without the leers

Candida Royalle says her American 'porn again' movies do not exploit their stars. Rene Riley-Adams reports

To talk to Candida Royalle you would think she was a high-flyer in the advertising world. Creative, funny and uncommonly articulate, she speaks honestly and with great authority on pornography, a subject that invites hushed whispers and embarrassment from most people.

Her ability to cross the cultural and moral divide has enabled her to dominate the growing market in America for sexually explicit films made by women, for women and couples. With the women's movement, the effects of Aids and the advent of home video, Ms Royalle has picked her niche well.

Just how successfully she has done this, the British may soon be able to judge for themselves. On February 10, "to celebrate Valentine's day", Ms Royalle hopes that two sex videos on her Femme label will go on sale for £12.99 at high street stores.

The videos are explicit by British standards, but are more discreet than the versions on sale in America and come from quite a different perspective than the average blue movie.

Before Femme was created in 1984 the blue movie business in America consisted for the most part of crude and predictable male-orientated films, featuring weak or non-existent storylines.

Femme boast budgets about $50-60,000 higher than the average sex video and tries to provide, Ms Royalle claims, something that couples and women can use to enhance relationships.

The buxom blonde bimbette is absent from Ms Royalle's films. Most of her actresses have, in fact, quite small breasts and not every curve is always firm. Breast implants are considered politically incorrect and she often employs older women and men from all walks of life. One film, called *Three Daughters*, contains in its female cast a 50-year-old, a medical student and a law student.

Ms Royalle's intention in her films is to focus on sensuality rather than sex. "We've seen enough of the obvious," she says. "We all know where it goes and we all know where it ends up. We really don't need any more lessons on that." The roots of this philosophy lie in Ms Royalle's background.

At 41, Candida Royalle, née Candice Vadala, has starred in 25 X-rated films and, in her late twenties was a well-known face in the glamour industry.

After several years of working in New York and studying at the Parson's school of Design and City College of New York, she struck out on her own to perform in San Francisco. She acted, sang in jazz clubs (she sings on four of her seven tapes), posed nude for art classes and started into light glamour or "cheesecake" modelling. When a director first suggested she try porn films, she was shocked at the idea and stormed out.

A few weeks later, however, she was back in the director's studio, with some friends who were curious to see what porn was all about and take advantage of the wages — up to $1,000 a day.

To hear her speak about her life on the screen you would think it was no more unusual than if she'd gone into nursing. Superficially, she appears unfazed by the experience but she admits to having undergone seven years of therapy to sort out her feelings about it all.

Even this period she managed to turn to her advantage. She went on to analyse her past with her therapist and with other porn stars who were also wondering what the next step was.

Almost ten years ago, Ms Royalle and seven other "bad girls" started their own support group. Recently she has invited her colleagues on to the set to produce erotica under the Femme label.

"There are a lot of people who have performed in the industry and then get out and bitch and moan about it," says Gloria Leonard, also a former porn star who now produces her own films. "But Candida is actually putting her money and talent towards changing it."

Ms Royalle is planning to move from video to full-length feature films for the adult market. She is now approaching investors with a newly-hired producer, Ted Folke, a Swede who has more than 20 years' experience in non-adult film and has criss-crossed the globe several times making documentaries for the United Nations.

Femme has already expanded into Australia, Japan, Holland and Scandinavia, as well as some of the eastern European countries. Ms Royalle has thought about breaking into the British market for quite some time but says it was a matter of finding the right company to handle her product.

"In England it would have been very easy for me to sell my films to a porno company who would stick it in the adult shops and after a couple of months it would be history. But you don't get any money for that and I just couldn't do that to my work."

Her British distribution company, M.I.A., has been marketing "glamour" titles for 18 months now and is best-known for its Sunset Strip label and the recent hit *Muscle Motion*, which features the Chippendales, the male beefcake dancing team, doing buttock exercises to the William Tell overture.

For women, the Femme message is that it is OK to have sex, to talk about it with a partner, and to share fantasies and insecurities. In *Sensual Escape* the actors' thoughts about sex are broached using voice-overs: he worries about when to introduce the subject of safe sex; she wonders if he will notice the stretch marks on her breasts.

Ms Royalle also believes in bringing reality to her films by, whenever possible, employing couples who are partners in real life. "I am very careful about the kind of people I use," she says. "If a guy calls me up and says, 'hey, I'm a real stud', then I know that he's not for me."

Some of the actors still look like porn stars, and some of the dialogue is still quite trite, but Ms Royalle's sex scenes are inventive without being over the top and her characters seem to have a sense of humour. Women are not treated as sex objects.

That the tapes are indeed made on much smaller budgets than the kind of love stories found in big screen cinemas is still obvious, but on the whole, I think, Ms Royalle achieves her goal. Her videos excite without creating guilt or shame.

Britain could well be in for a flood of American adult films. "We're seeing American pornographers moving their material to Europe because of the amazing heat they're getting from the justice department here," says Gene Malpas, a senior attorney for the National Coalition Against Pornography, based in Washington, DC.

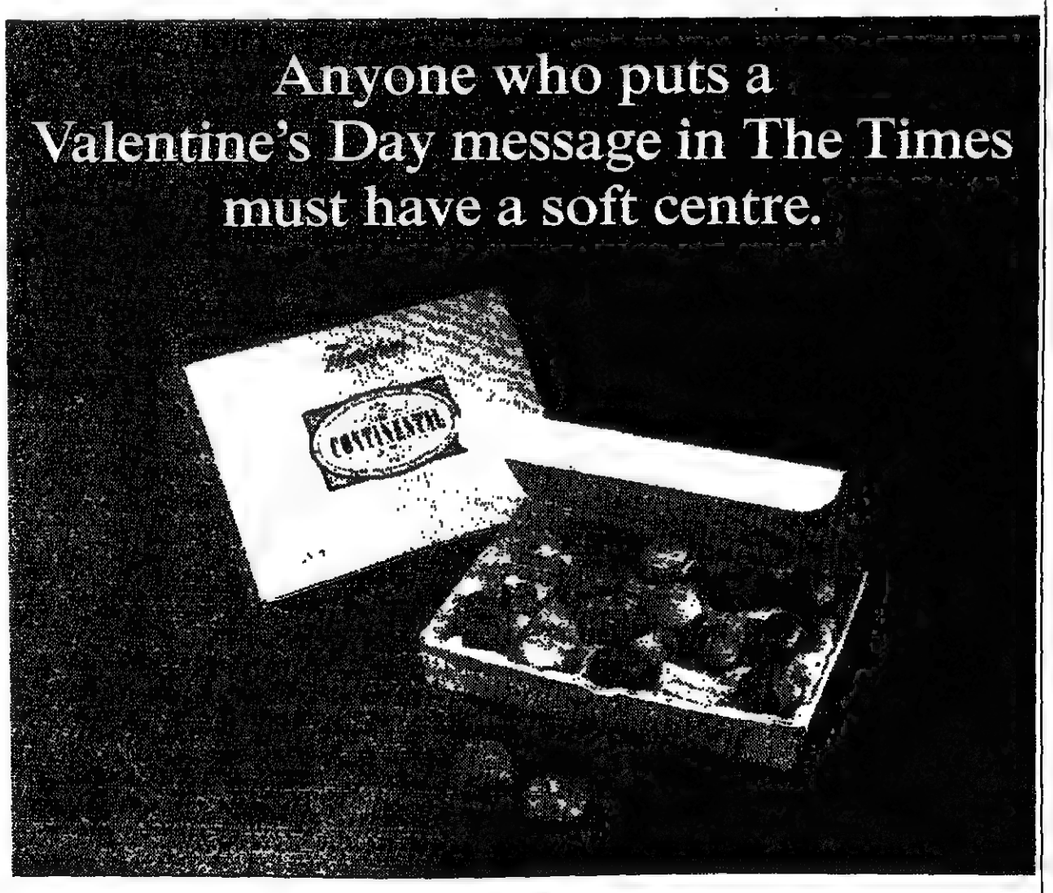
Though Ms Royalle's films have found their place in the United States, where they are unrated and sell by mail order, it is uncertain how they will be received in Britain. The adult film industry in Britain is a tough one to evaluate.

Steve Hughes, the director of Electric Video, Britain's largest producer of original adult titles, estimates that the sex video industry is worth some £30 million a year in sales. In a recent British poll, however, only 1 per cent of those asked admitted to hiring sex videos.

In America last year 69 per cent of all video outlets carried X-rated films, with single women and couples hiring 44 per cent of all adult products.

"I think the British people are really ready for the kind of thing I'm doing," Ms Royalle says. "My theory is that the more you try to suppress your sexuality the raunchier you become and then it all kind of comes out sideways — you just can't suppress a life force."

Anyone who puts a Valentine's Day message in The Times must have a soft centre.



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THE TIMES

Cutting ahead of the others

MANWATCHING

What goes on, and comes off, in the Savoy barber's shop

Any serious anthropological study of man in his natural habitat ought to begin at the top and work meticulously down, so it was only right that this investigation should commence in the barber's shop of the Savoy Hotel. There, I had heard, many of the great male thinkers of our time and those referred to as "movers and shakers" had their hair cut; indeed it was even said that customers included Melvyn Bragg.

What better way to understand those eminent minds than through the microcosm of their coiffure?

Breath bated, I negotiated the art deco revolving entrance of the Savoy and headed for the "Residents Only" sign, intended to keep riff-raff such as myself away. A gentleman's barber's, I hoped, would provide an ascetic experience for the customer. I would witness the rough kiss of the cutthroat razor and the sight of strong men wincing as the electric clippers nicked their necks. Battle-scarred regulars would queue beneath 1950s condom advertisements, reading the motor section of *Exchange & Mart*.

How wrong can you be? The opaque glass door, flagged *Michael at the Savoy — Gentleman's hairdressing salon*. Riven with disappointment at the effeminate tone, I entered the sanctum.

George and Ian, the barbers, were busy lopping, and it was indicated that I should consult the beautician. *The beautician?* A clearly female person in a white coat started talking about how men are going in for facials in a big way, cleansing, peeling, and massaging with a bit of *Decleor Baume Essentiel*.

I allowed my mouth to hang open. The white coat took this as a sign to continue. Did the readers know about back waxing? Yes, men, too, could have those unsightly hairs removed, and really the hot wax and the rip-off strips were rather pleasant once you were used to them. Of course she had done chests, but not at the Savoy.

What sort of wimps was she dealing with? Here was the chosen barber of half London's judges, a spattering of front bench MPs and minor royalty, advocating facial electrolysis and worse. George-the-barber, a Cypriot in the trade for 30 years, explained that times had indeed changed.

He drew some comfort from the fact that many gentlemen still relied on the same hair tonics that were around when he started. We examined the Savoy's own range, including *Auressa Cream* and *Blue Brilliantine*. He also revealed, as I had long suspected, that *Pantene Vitamin Hair Tonic* and the ratty-smelling *Eau de Portugal* did absolutely nothing for thinning hair other than grease it up.

Once we had touched on the delicate subject of baldness, there was no holding back. The Savoy customers, said George, were the sort who would joke it off, but he had, in his time, seen acts of desperation. This confirmed my theory that men worry secretly and obsessively about their hair in precisely the same way women worry about the size of their breasts — you can never have enough.

George had heard of men who had rings pierced into the skin of their heads in order to anchor the new clip-on toupees. An advance on double-sided sticky tape. Then the manageress exploded another of one of life's great mysteries — how the Robert Robinsons of this world maintain the part and spread technique in high winds. *Tenax*, a French preparation, was the answer. It stuck my fingers together permanently.

Sympathy began to well up inside me for the gents forced to undergo such daily torture, and I thought sadly of secret caches at the back of the bathroom cabinet of restorative preparations. Preoccupied, I headed for the door, noting that George failed to wink at me and ask, "Will there be anything else, Sir?"

KM

Are the women of war at peace?

A year ago, women soldiers were sent to the Gulf. Kate Muir reports on their adjustment to death, separation and guilt

The face that symbolised the woman soldier in the Gulf war was that of the mother in camouflage, with a badge of her baby daughter pinned to her helmet. It appeared this time last year in many British and American newspapers when the air war was at its height, and the ground offensive a few weeks away. No one needed to interview the soldier-mother — the image said it all.

Now, amid the television beano of Gulf anniversary specials, the 34,000 female soldiers deployed continue to be seen but not heard. Yet they have also had to come to terms with the death, separation and guilt, as well as the more positive aspects of survival.

The conflict's most-pictured woman is to be found this week teaching in North Dakota. Captain JoAnn Conley is in the United States National Guard reserve force, and has returned to civilian life after nine months in charge of the water depot which supplied most of the American desert troops.

Last year: JoAnn Conley with her Stephanie badge

The subject of the badge — Stephanie, aged three — is living at home again, after months of being shuttled between her divorced father and grandparents. It is clear, despite the stress of Scud attacks and the sight of Iraqi corpses, that the worst part of Captain Conley's war was separation from her daughter. Because of her age, it was impossible to communicate by letter, so her mother relied on rare phone calls.

"She'd come to the phone and say: 'Mommy, you're in Saudi Arabia. Is that far, far away? Can I come and see you?', and I just wouldn't be able to answer I felt so bad. Nine months was entirely too long," she says.

When Capt Conley returned, Stephanie followed her constantly, in fear that her mother would leave again. "For six weeks, I did not go to the bathroom alone. But I needed her too." She assumed that a young child might be less traumatised than an older one, who understood what war meant, but recently when she told her daughter she was going out to make a speech about her Gulf experiences, the child burst into tears.

At 29, leaving a child behind and then being responsible for 145 soldiers in the Gulf under missile fire was quite a strain. She also saw at first hand, as the water tankers followed the frontline troops into Kuwait, the miles of burnt-out, mangled vehicles and blackened bodies which littered the strafed Basra road leading from the city.

At first when Capt Conley came back, people in the small town of Cavalier recognised her, and dozens came up to ask her if she was glad to be back.

"I always thought that was a stupid question. They meant well, but I wanted privacy. For the first three months I couldn't talk about it — only dream about it. My stomach would go into a knot and I wanted to throw up. I was so terrified, somehow, that they would send me back."

Such feelings are typical of both men and women on return. Every soldier experiences some stress or anxiety, but only a few have serious psychiatric disorders. The British forces have diagnosed 80 cases so far of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among those who served in the Gulf. The Ministry of Defence was unable to say whether any women had PTSD, but since only about 1,000 British women went to the Gulf, it seems unlikely.

Although the worst cases of post-traumatic stress are among soldiers who were in the centre of the battle, Colonel Robert Anderson, the British Army's director of psychiatry, says: "The difference with this war was that soldiers were being Scudded everywhere, and not just on the front. Even those who were in battle had unpleasant experiences more in terms of what they saw than what they did."

Because much of the battle occurred at night, it was more like "playing a computer game with the sound turned down". The devastation was seen by the light of the next day by those following behind the infantry and tanks.

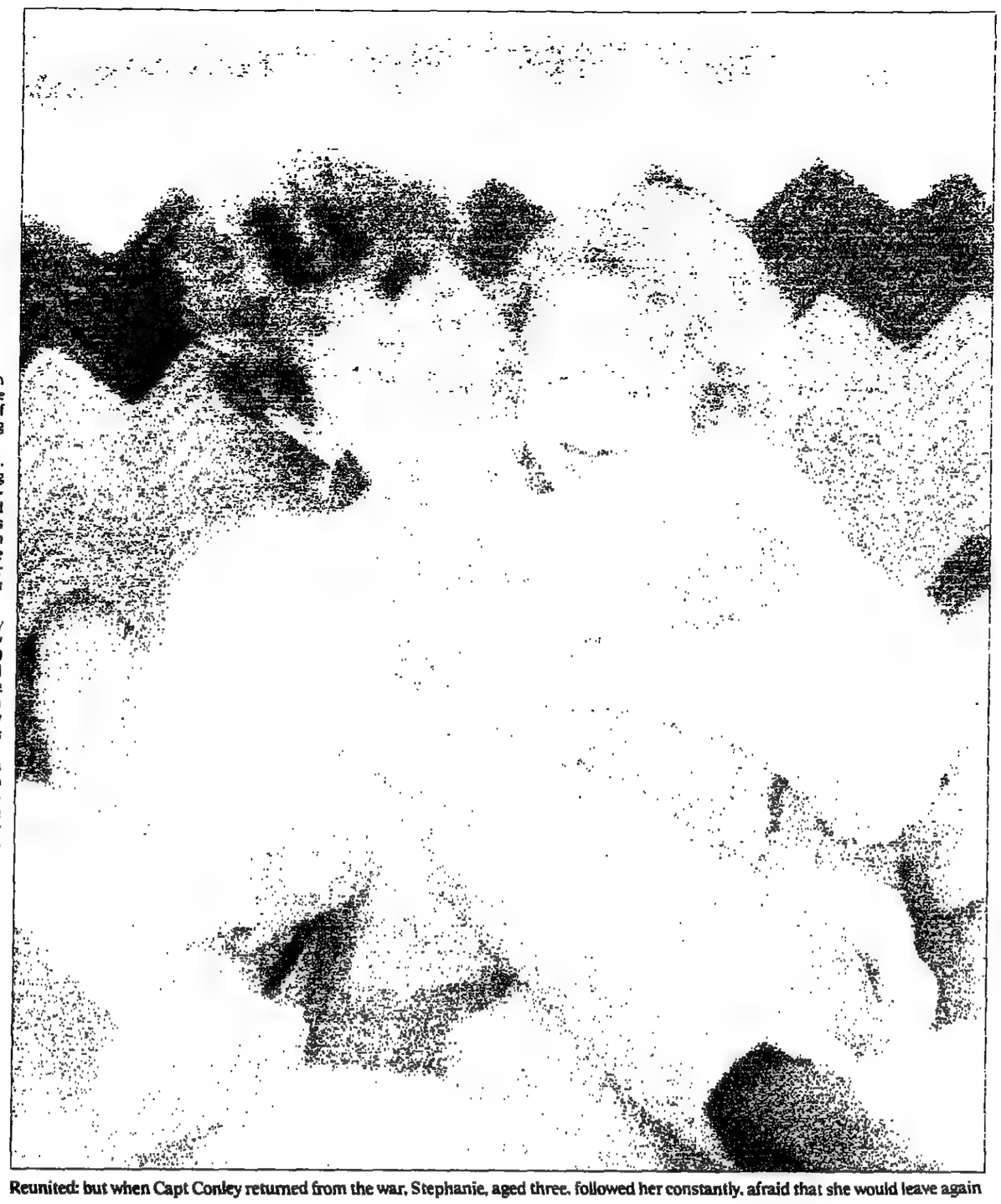
"Being out there, seeing it all, avoiding minefields, and being within range of all sorts of weapons was almost as dangerous and must have been disturbing," says Lieutenant Colonel Iain Johnstone, the commanding officer of the Royal Scots infantry.

Lieutenant Wendy Smart was the only woman with the 300 or so Royal Scots, and followed behind the infantry in a truck in the darkness as they went into Iraq. As second-in-command of the headquarters company, she had to navigate a supply convoy through the minefields and cluster bombs. On the journey she saw Iraqi prisoners and their dead, and passed the point where the nine British infantrymen killed by American "friendly fire" were being put into body bags.

"Some people will talk about it now over a few beers, and some don't. Everyone is very matter of fact. I don't think it was any worse for me than for the men, although it was a bit more lonely being the only woman there," says Lt Smart, preferring to play down any horror. "I don't know anyone who had nightmares afterwards — or at least admitted to it."

British women soldiers may have seen the Iraqi dead, but they did not see any of their close colleagues die. For the Americans, it was a different story. More of their soldiers were killed when a Scud hit barracks at Dhahran in Saudi Arabia than in the heat of battle.

That partly explains why about 300 American soldiers have undergone psychiatric treatment. Mary Rhoads, an army specialist, was one of the 55 survivors of the barracks attack a few days before the ceasefire. Twenty-eight of her colleagues died, 83 were injured. Because her friend, Specialist Beverley Clark, was missing, Specialist Rhoads volunteered to identify her among the charred bodies. "I knew Beverley right away. You could see her pudgy nose and perfect teeth," she told the Senate veterans' affairs committee. Specialist Rhoads — a reserve who is normally a traffic warden — is still having nightmares and suffers from lingering anxiety, despite psychiatric help.



Reunited: but when Capt Conley returned from the war, Stephanie, aged three, followed her constantly, afraid that she would leave again

With the Falklands still fresh in their minds, military psychiatrists and welfare workers ensured the troops were told about readjustment and the problems they might face with their families on return. Lt Smart says: "We were given the leaflets on the plane home. All I remember was they were entirely addressed to men about their wives or girlfriends, and they warned you not to be surprised by tension or changes."

Leaflets were deemed to be enough for most soldiers. Counselling was only by request, and many soldiers were embarrassed to ask for it.

American advice packs were directed at the unisex market, and full of little homilies: "Your joy at reunion is powerful and exciting — and disappointments can be extra strong too." One army booklet included questions for both partners to ask themselves such as "Did I do OK with the kids?". The marines' booklet was more directed at the single man. "Re-establish your sexual relationship slowly. You can't make up for lost time on a single night." On experimentation, it advised: "Give it time, she may be suspicious of where you learned about these ideas!"

Relationships are a casualty of war. In Britain, the Gulf Families' Crisis Line has had over 2,000 calls from soldiers and relatives. Over half of the callers' problems centred on the difficulties with partners following months of separation. Most of the women who rang were Wrens from the hospital ships or frigates.

The Americans discovered that many of those traumatised had found the sudden departures and homecomings — flying from the desert to their living rooms in a day — extremely distressing.

Mr Lloyd tells of one call from the husband of one of the Wrens who had waited to greet her off the plane. The man stood with his children, holding champagne and flowers, and his wife walked straight past him, unseeing. They have now separated.

In America, there are hundreds of examples of women soldiers leaving their partners after the Gulf war. Renee Rothrock, a divorce lawyer who takes 90 per cent of her clients from the 40,000 soldiers at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, says applications for divorce tripled in the months after the war.

"Often the civilian left holding the baby or kids would find himself a non-military partner, or if the marriage was shaky it would just collapse," she says. Men and women out in the desert also time to think, and to realise that their home lives were not complete.

The effects of having been in such a war will linger long after its first anniversary. Col Anderson believes. Because the battle was in some ways left unfinished with Saddam Hussein still in power, soldiers will wonder if the deaths of their friends could possibly be justified.

Suicides are still occurring among soldiers, months after leaving the war zone. The Gulf war may have been short, but it is leaving a long shadow.

Slippery slope to sporting success

Are female bobsleighers feminists or simply speed freaks?

On Valentine's day, Caroline Walker and Tina Belbin will resume their love affair with one of the world's toughest sports and take on the men at their own game, hurtling down an icy track at high speeds in the British Inter-Services Bobsleigh championship at Igls, Austria.

As the only female pairing in the event, they know that beating even two or three of their 15-odd male rivals will be a triumph. Bobsleighing bdepends on pure strength and acceleration in the sprint start, but the organisers admit that on current form, the women could well spring a few surprises.

That they are taking part at all is a minor miracle. Ms Walker, aged 28, , spent six years pleading with the all-male British bobsleigh establishment to be allowed to train as a driver of a two-man bob after an addictive outing as a passenger, at a time when almost no women had even sat in a bob and were forbidden to compete on several European tracks, including St Moritz.

Now she and Ms Belbin, aged 29, her brakeman, and a former junior international three-day eventer, have helped to establish an international women's circuit, this season involving seven nations, and have begun to break down much of the prejudice against female participation.

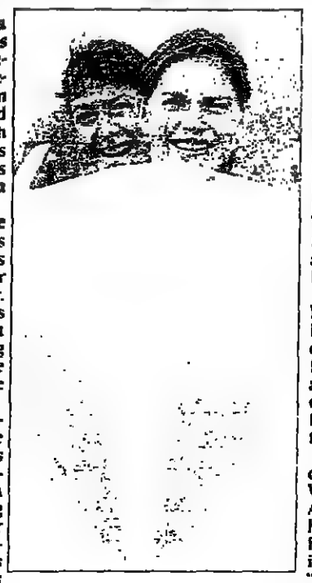
Both are adamant that their dedication to the sport is not a feminist gesture, but prompted by the excitement and terror of plunging down a twisted track at speeds of up to 80mph, negotiating a series of loops and bends which each demand precision driving and split-second timing. A single slip can produce a fatal crash, and despite no big spills, both have experienced ice burns when the bob turned on its side close to the finish of a race last season.

So far, the successes have far outweighed the failures and Ms Walker's face lights up when she recalls their best performance so far. "Our greatest moment was winning the women's race at Igls in a record time, beating the Canadians, who are ranked number one in the world."

Another result of this victory was a change in attitude among the British men's bobsleigh competitors, including Mark Tout and Sean Olsson, the up-and-coming driver, who are tipped for medals at the Winter Olympics. "The men are taking us a lot more seriously," Ms Walker says.

Mr Tout has paid tribute to the women's dedication, confessing that he had been fairly sceptical before he saw them in action. "They turned in some very competitive times at their last race at Winterberg in Germany, and the men are taking them a lot more seriously."

The women train six nights a week, using a mixture of weights and circuits to build up strength, and track work to develop speed. The most important part of the training takes place each weekend at Thorpe Park in Surrey, where they practice explosive starts, using a heavy bobsleigh which they push, timing acceleration after each attempt. "This push practice is essential because it simulates the bobsleigh sprint starts so effectively," says Ms Walker, a former schoolgirl sprint champion.



Hard knocks: training

The practice has also transformed both women's physiques: Ms Walker, a powerfully-built 5ft 7in has shed more than a stone, and replaced all flab with solid muscle. The willowy Ms Belbin, a catering manager for a large broking firm, is now far stronger and faster than when she first met Ms Walker during a weight training session two years ago, and was talked into becoming her brakeman.

The big headache remains lack of funds as the women have outgrown their basic equipment and need about £14,000 to buy a new bob and two sets of runners for different ice conditions, plus £6,000 to cover next season's travelling expenses.

Ms Walker, the daughter of General Sir Antony Walker, chairman of the Army Bobsleigh Association, has received considerable financial help from her family to reach this standard. "What we would really like to do now is attract more women to try bobsleighing, so that we can expand the circuit," she says.

"To be considered for Olympic status, perhaps for the 1998 Winter Games, we'd need at least 17 nations competing. Ideally, the sort of build we are looking for is someone like Judy Oakes, the shot-putter — athletic with lots of power and capable of withstanding a few knocks."

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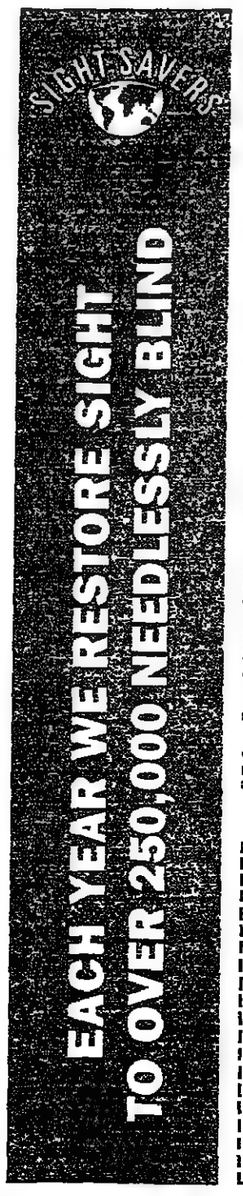
On the Health page on Thursday, Thomson Prentice investigates the healthy side of sunshine



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The guilty editors

Roy Hattersley (right) accuses Conservative newspapers of suppressing the facts about Labour's policies

The numbers are important. Seven national dailies, with a total circulation of almost ten million copies, are unequivocally Tory. Two, *Today* and *The Independent*, which sell a million copies between them, are Conservative but coy about it. The *Daily Mirror* (Labour through and through) and *The Guardian* (radical but politically promiscuous) have a combined daily sale of three and a half million.

To be outnumbered in the newspaper battle by a ratio of three to one is in itself a major detriment. But the numerical disparity is only part of the handicap which Labour must overcome — a handicap so great that it poses a threat to genuine democracy.

Tory papers come in different shapes and sizes. Allegiance to the Conservative Party has not prevented *The Sunday Times* from excoriating Norman Lamont. *Financial Times* editorials end with support for the government, but they are carefully reasoned. Occasional heresy and balanced argument are found only at the top of the trade. Down among the Tory tabloids the rule is unremitting propaganda.

The truth is ruthlessly suppressed and stories are crudely manufactured. But calculated dishonesty — whether by invention or omission — is not the most serious indictment of the Tory press. Their crime against a free society is the way in which they conspire with the Tory Party to create rather than report the news.

The formula is simple enough, and comes with two variations. Sometimes Tory ministers make a preposterous allegation which, because it is underwritten by the press, becomes received wisdom. Last October, Kenneth Baker claimed that Labour was planning to flood the country with immigrants. The rest of the dirty work was done on front pages.

Conversely, Conservative newspapers fabricate a story and it is then repeated by Tory ministers as though it were established truth. Last week's story in the *Daily Mail* which claimed that John Smith and I were in some sort of dispute was simply untrue. That did not stop Christopher Patten using it as "evidence" of Labour's disarray.

The corrupt compact between the Tory party and Tory press is illustrated by Conservative claims that Labour will increase public expenditure by £35 billion (or is it £37 billion?) and add 10p to the basic rate of income tax.

Labour could invent a parallel nonsense about Tory plans — income tax cuts which result in doubled VAT, a reduction in the retirement pension and the abandonment of child benefit. But even if we were sufficiently mendacious to peddle such rubbish, it would not be reported. We need something to keep the Tory party equally honest.

The classic compensation for a corrupt press is honest broadcasting. But that is no longer a sovereign remedy for newspaper fabrication. A BBC journalist attended the dinner at which Neil Kinnock "revealed" or "admitted" that Labour's tax proposals might be phased in.

Initially, he appears not to have thought the event worth reporting — presumably because he had already seen it in policy documents.

But after the "Kinnock changes mind" story was manufactured by newspapers, the BBC felt it had to fall in line.

The *Daily Mail's* front page story on Monday, which claimed that the Ford Motor Company equated Labour victory with economic ruin was disowned in a letter which the Ford chairman sent to Mr Kinnock. But that did not prevent Mr Patten from quoting the article in the House of Commons, and yesterday the BBC broadcast what he said.

Most of us who were brought up in the Labour Party are taught not to complain about the newspapers, but to accept their behaviour as the effluent of a free society. It has always happened and it always would happen. During the 19th century, even *The Times* once printed a known forgery in the hope of destroying Charles Stuart Parnell.

The *Daily Mail* has a record of invention which stretches from the Zinoviev letter, through the Wilson Slush Fund scandal to the "12 Labour Lies" that turned out to be true. The advice was grin and bear it.

We consoled ourselves with the pretence that it made no difference to voting habits. The people have more sense than to believe what the newspapers tell them or, conversely, if half *The Sun's* readers once thought it was a Labour paper, anything is possible.

Sporting analogies were used to reinforce the call for lofty detachment. If a batsman rubs the spot where the ball hits, the bowler knows that he is fast enought to hurt.

I am no longer convinced that disdain is the proper reaction. I doubt if the election result will be much affected by the behaviour of *The Sun*, *Express* and *Mail*, but that is only because the Labour Party will work overtime to rebut the distortions.

A proper democracy should not allow such built-in bias against one of its two major parties — a bias built on the prejudice and self-interest of a handful of millionaires. If you doubt how great that bias is, try to imagine what the Tory tabloids would have said about a Labour government which had presided over the longest recession in modern history, brought in and bought out the Poll Tax, and pushed up mortgage rates to record levels.

I am now in favour of tackling political chicanery head on — exposing the deceptions, describing the distortions and pinning the blame on the people ultimately responsible for imprisoning the free press.

The dubious headlines and the false leaders do not write themselves. They are the responsibility of the editors, (Kelvin MacKenzie, Sir Nicholas Lloyd and Sir David English) and the proprietors who employ them: Rupert Murdoch, Lord Stevens of Ludgate and Lord Rothermere. They rarely defend themselves or their action in public, but usually fire their anonymous bullets from miles behind the front line of political controversy.

Enoch Powell used to insist that politicians complaining about the press are like sailors complaining about the sea. Perhaps, but from now on the Tory editors and owners are going to hear the sound of me spitting into the wind.

HOW READERS VOTE

Newspaper	Con	Lab	Lib
Sunday Telegraph	77%	11%	10%
Daily Telegraph	71%	13%	15%
Daily Mail	66%	17%	15%
Daily Express	66%	19%	13%
Sunday Express	64%	20%	14%
Mail on Sunday	62%	18%	18%
The Times	61%	18%	17%
Sunday Times	57%	22%	16%
Financial Times	50%	27%	18%
Today	48%	35%	14%
The Sun	39%	48%	10%
Sunday Sport	35%	56%	8%
News of the World	35%	51%	10%
Independent	31%	40%	26%
The People	31%	56%	11%
Independent on Sunday	27%	44%	26%
Sunday Mirror	24%	61%	13%
Daily Star	23%	64%	9%
Daily Mirror	19%	69%	10%
Observer	13%	57%	23%
The Guardian	12%	59%	22%

Source: MORI, October – December 1991

Fear and loathing stalk Panorama

With falling ratings and an unsettled staff, can the BBC's current affairs flagship avoid going under?

Not for the first time, news is not good from the set of *Panorama*, British television's longest-running current affairs programme. Senior BBC executives are concerned about the lack of consistency in what has been the flagship of the BBC's current affairs operation for four decades.

The new troubles at *Panorama* come in the wake of falling ratings and a protracted argument over the style of the programme's journalism. Speculation about the future of three of the programme's longest-serving reporters and the search for a new editor are behind the latest battle for the soul of *Panorama*.

In the past year, audience figures for the programme, which in its time has been fronted by the late Richard Dimbleby, Robert Kee and Sir Robin Day, have declined by about 15 per cent. When, in 1985, Michael Grade, then head of BBC1, moved the programme to its present 9.30pm slot, and cut its running time from 50 to 40 minutes, its audience doubled overnight, to nearly nine million. Now its average audience is 3.6 million.

Panorama's detractors claim that its poor performance is a direct result of the reforms instigated by John Birt, director-general in waiting at the BBC.

There is no doubt that Mr Birt and his acolytes have steered the programme away from tough, investigative reporting, and introduced a more cerebral, issue-based style, where analysis usually takes the place of the old fashioned journalistic scoop.

"*Panorama* is not exactly viewer-friendly anymore," says Paul Woolwich, a former deputy editor of the programme now in charge of *This Week*, Thames Television's rival current affairs programme. "The audience is put off by *Panorama's* deeply analytical stance."

Mr Woolwich thinks the programme's role has been usurped by the Birt-inspired growth of a new wave of BBC television current affairs programmes such as *Assignment*, *Public Eye* and *On the Record*. "*Panorama* is having difficulty finding stories that aren't being done elsewhere," he says.

Opinions are divided about the success of Mark Thompson, the outgoing *Panorama* editor. His obvious brightness and ambition have led to a massive promotion, as BBC television's new head of features, where he will be responsible for shows such as *That's Life*.

Thompson: former editor

But, "under Thompson, *Panorama* was trying to face in two directions at once", says a senior current affairs programme-maker. "He was neither a fully paid-up Birtian or a stories man. As a result, *Panorama* drifted."

Certainly, most viewers would be hard-pressed to think of more than a handful of memorable *Panoramas* in the past year. Even *The Max Factor*, last year's headline-hitting expose of Robert Maxwell, which Maxwell tried to stop being screened, had its critics within Television Centre. "It didn't actually reveal all that much," one says.

Proof, however, that *Panorama* can still deliver a good, strong, investigative yarn was offered last week with *Getting Rid of Granny*, a disturbing account of how NHS long-stay geriatric wards are being closed down. The programme generated a huge postbag and was seen by about a million more viewers than usual. Ironically, the programme's reporter, Robin Denselow, whose links with *Panorama* go back to the 1970s, has been told by Samir Shah, who is in charge of weekly current affairs programmes, that his future with *Panorama* is uncertain.

The attempt to redeploy Mr Denselow, and two other *Panorama* veterans, believed to be Fred Emery and Tom Mangold, has infuriated colleagues. A petition has been sent to Jonathan Powell, the controller of BBC1, in an effort to save Mr Denselow's *Panorama* job. "It looks like the final rout of the old guard," a producer says.

Within the next few weeks, the BBC will have to appoint a new editor. It is an open secret at Television Centre that Mr Powell would prefer someone who is able to make the kind of accessible, investigative programmes that attract viewers.

But he is almost certain to be vetoed by Mr Birt's lieutenants in the news and current affairs directorate. For viewers, this could mean even more boring editions of *Panorama*.

STEVE CLARKE

MEDIA WATCH

Show down

TELEVISION producers negotiating the sale of programmes to the ITV network for the 1993 schedule should beware. Any deals done could be nullified if ITV companies do not soon register their transitional scheduling arrangements under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

Last month, ITV executives began commissioning their own programmes for the first eight months of 1993, despite legislation meant to abolish all guarantees and open the system to independents by next January.

Any deals signed or concluded in principle could also collapse if, once registered, the transitional commissioning system is found to be anti-competitive by the Office of Fair Trading and referred to the restrictive practices court.

Angry words

THE European Broadcasting Union (EBU), the Geneva-based trade body for public service broadcasters, has issued a new set of guidelines on the portrayal of violence on television. Broadcasters must spare viewers any scenes of violence which "offend their dignity and sensitivity", and every effort made to avoid violence becoming commonplace or being glorified as a means of solving conflicts.

Good buy

GLOSSY pictures and undemanding articles have again proved a winning combination for *Hello!*, which has boosted its circulation by 28.1 per cent. Sales from July to December reached 444,257. "It proves that good news does sell if you put the right pictures with it," Sally Cartwright, the publishing director, says.

Other women's magazines to fare well in the July to December Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC) figures: *House Beautiful*, up 25.7 per cent to 271,319, *She* up 20 per cent to 283,731 and *Company* up 14.2 per cent, to 220,972. But *Hello!* has yet to catch Cosmopolitan, up 10.7 per cent to 472,480.

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For an application form, please contact (quote ref. 9369 T) **Carol Williams, BBC, Room 5260, 201 Wood Lane, London W12 7TS. Tel: 081-752 4022.**

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A new Chief Executive is needed by The Library Association, as George Cunningham is about to retire.

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- *Maintain and develop senior level contact with central and local government*
- *Further the aims of the Association as defined in its Royal Charter and Byelaws.*

The Council therefore invites applications from those suitably qualified. The prime quality sought is senior management experience, but such experience in the field of librarianship and/or information science would be an advantage.

Further details from: Head of Administration Department, The Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE. (Tel: 071-636 7543)

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هكذا من الأصل

Can new homes in the countryside be built within planning rules? **Rachel Kelly** meets a developer with an answer

Conjuring trick in the country

Farriers Court is at its best viewed on a foggy day from a distance. Then, this newly finished development of eight houses in the Warwickshire village of Wasperton really looks like the collection of farm buildings it is meant to resemble.

On a clearer day, the courtyard, close up, is suspiciously clean and devoid of chickens. The "barn" doors are full-length windows and wood panelling. New houses are masquerading as farm buildings.

The conjuring trick helped Berkeley Homes to get planning permission for its new houses on the edge of Wasperton village, near Stratford-upon-Avon, which would otherwise almost certainly have been refused.

David Wilson, of Berkeley Homes, says: "Planning regulations from Stratford-upon-Avon district council stipulated that any new building on the site must not look like a group of new homes. But if the development blended in with the village . . ."

And blend it does. The developers scoured the countryside, watched by the the planners, sketching dovecotes and barn roofs from local farms to reproduce for their buildings of local brick. A granary, grainstore, stable block, barns and farmhouse were the result, around a paved courtyard and separated from the road by a brick wall and five-bar gate. Sadly, the dovecote has no doves.

Mr Wilson says that seven of the eight buildings have already been sold at between £145,000 and £285,000.

Berkeley Homes is now completing the finishing touches, including, no doubt, a few pieces of artistically arranged straw.

The less agriculturally minded might prefer a stone Cotswold cottage, on sale at Bourton-on-the-water in Gloucestershire. Again, the new-as-old trick has been played, this time by Beazer Homes. The cottages, within stone walls topped with stone capping, blend with the honey-coloured local Cotswold stone of their neighbours. The iron-work is wrought, and the sharp angle of the roofs matches those of existing cottages. Strict building rules required traditional wooden window sashes and casements. Ten of the 30 cottages in the scheme, priced at £100,000 each, are left.

Of course, as David Mason, of Beazer admits, a buyer would have to squint to believe the cottages were anything but new. "They look too clean," he says. But weathering will soon change that, he adds.

Weathering has already happened at Pyndar Court at Beauchamp, in Malvern, finished by Lansdown Homes in summer, 1988. Two linked courtyards of 26 two-bedroom cottages echo the original Pyndar Court, a rambling Victorian building, which has been demolished.

The house's ghost lives on in the development, built in Pyndar's Court's original grounds. The developers copied the original red brick and the scheme echoes many of Pyndar Court's architectural features.

Critics of such schemes will mutter about toytown pastiche and Disneyland. Such buildings obviously lack the suffused warmth of generations of families that have lived and loved inside their four walls. The climbing plants have yet to wrap themselves around the front doors.

To live in, they are, however, superior to their predecessors. Well-proportioned rooms, practical bathrooms and central heating are *de rigueur*. If home comforts matter, a modern house is for you.

And such schemes are a far cry from developments in the past that blanketed fields with rows of identical new houses. In projects like these, sympathetic to existing architecture, developers can deploy their skill without disfiguring the countryside.

NEWSTEAM

Farm style: David Wilson and some of the houses near Stratford, where planning permission would normally have been hard to obtain

BEST BUY

Snip with a cut of £55,000

Four bedrooms and a flat, in two acres, for £325,000

A GRADE II listed cottage in the village of Dummer, in Hampshire, has just had £55,000 knocked off the £380,000 price. Seven reception rooms, four bedrooms, two bathrooms and a one-bedroom flat, in two acres of grounds can be yours for £325,000. *(Rachel Kelly writes).*

The freehold house justifies the best buy tag when one considers local prices, says Ellis & Co, which is selling the house. "It's easily 10 to 15 per cent cheaper than similar properties round about," an Ellis spokeswoman says. "You won't find many houses like this coming up for sale. I expect it will be snapped up soon."

Although skilfully extended and updated, some of the building dates from the 16th century. The one-and-a-half acre grounds include a paved terrace and *loggia* leading to a lawn, on to two paddocks and a stable block. The house is part of the Kempshott Park estate.

The house is approached by a half-mile-long drive. Neighbours include Major Ronald Ferguson, the Duchess of York's father. His 800-acre farm nearby came on to the market last October for £380,000.

The house offers privacy, without forgoing links with Heathrow (half an hour away), the M3 (a short drive), the M4 (ditto) and Waterloo (45 minutes on the mainline service).

Rotunda in the park

ONE OF the best examples of a Regency villa in London's Regent's Park went on the market this month for £17.5 million. The house, built between 1822 and 1824 and designed by Decimus Burton for George Bellas Greenough, MP, stands in four acres of private parkland and has murals by, Sigismund Goetze, the artist who owned the property from 1909 to 1939.

The owner, Mrs Janet Holmes à Court, decided to sell because she is spending less time in London since the death 18 months ago of her husband, Robert, an Australian entrepreneur.

A spokesman for Knight Frank & Rutley, the agents selling the house, say that Mr Holmes à Court used Grove House as a base for his international investment operations.

The Grade 1-listed building, which has a 96-year lease owned by Crown Estates, was bought in 1986 for about £8 million. Restoration work, supervised by Mrs Holmes à Court, transformed what had been the headquarters of the Nuffield Foundation for more than 30 years.

One of London's finest Regency villas is for sale at £17.5m

The entrance hall is decorated with Goetze murals depicting the astrological zodiac, and leads into a rotunda, surrounded by eight columns, which are similar to the columns from the Temple of Wind in Athens. The rotunda leads to a sweep of drawing room, music room, library and dining room, which look out on to the garden, where rare trees will delight gardeners. Among them are a Ginkgo, Catalpa, Quercus Ilex and a Metasequoia, thought to be extinct and known only from fossil remains until specimens were discovered in a valley in China in 1945. A gazebo and conservatory nestle in the grounds.

The house has five bedrooms and four bathrooms, complete with dressing rooms and morning rooms.

But who can afford what is probably the most expensive period house in London? Buyers are most likely to come from abroad, but for a house rich in English history, it would be pleasing if a local came forward.

RACHEL KELLY

● *Viewing is by appointment with Knight Frank & Rutley*

More homes, page 8

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MARKET MOVES

Letting coup

ONE of the biggest office lettings in Liverpool for several years has been announced. The Littlewoods organisation is taking the whole of the Atlantic Pavilion, in the Albert Dock complex, as headquarters for its chain-stores division, at a reported rent of about £10.50 a sq ft.

The 88,000 sq ft of offices will provide employment for almost 600 people. The ground floor of 6,000 sq ft will house a restaurant. The Albert Dock, the country's largest group of Grade I listed buildings, has been redeveloped by the Arrowcroft group and Merseyside Development Corporation.

On completion, the investment of about £100 million is expected to have created 4,000 jobs.

Topped out

THE Smith & Nephew Group research centre, the first phase of a £23 million development programme at York Science Park, a joint venture between the University of York and P&O Developments, was topped out this week. Smith & Nephew, the first company to take a pre-let on the 21-acre parkland site, will occupy the 84,000 sq ft office, laboratory and product develpoment plant, due for completion at the end of the year.

Flagship

THE Corner is an aptly named office development on the corner of Old Bond Street and Piccadilly, the flagship scheme in the West End of London of SC Properties (UK), the property development branch of Shimizu Corporation, a Japanese construction group.

The scheme, formerly on the site of Qantas House, includes office and retail space, with five floors of new office accommodation totalling 21,000 sq ft, rebuilt behind the listed façade. The building is being let by Chesterton.

Big sales signal an end to the slump

Investment property is turning the corner, Christopher Warman writes

Signs of the long-awaited recovery in the property investment market have at last started to emerge, says the agent Hillier Park, which has completed transactions on more than £300 million of property in the last two months through its investment services division.

Agents have been searching for such signs over many months. The completion of these deals, however, is "positive evidence that the investment market has turned the corner", says Greg Nicholson, Hillier Park's investment agency partner.

Mr Nicholson adds: "Our research publications have been pointing for some months now to a gradual recovery in the market, while we at the 'deals' end were waiting for these forecasts to translate into the major transactions being predicted."

Mr Nicholson emphasises that the deals are unconnected and have involved the re-emergence of a UK property company, a leading insurance company, a US investment group and an international partnership. "This surely indicates a real reawakening of interest in UK property by investors generally," he says, "rather than just one type of investor, and must be treated as true evidence of an upturn."

The deals leading to this view are the sale and leaseback for Burtons of the Oxford Circus Peter Robinson department store to Heron/Société Générale for £51 million; the £37.5 million sale of Arcona's office development at 84 South Audley Street, Mayfair, to Citibank clients; the sale for Shell/CU's Kingfisher shopping centre, at Redditch, in the west Midlands, to AMP (Pearl Assurance) for £41 million; Dusco's acquisition of a share in Capital & Counties' interest in Nottingham's Victoria Centre for £98 million, and the disposal of County & District's property portfolio to GPE and County NatWest for £105 million.

Jones Lang Wootton also reports several investment deals, including the sale of Citicape House, Holborn Viaduct, by First International Property Trust to Gulf International Properties for about £30 million. Citicape House, with 63,000 sq ft of space, was let at £51 a sq ft.

Scottish Widows' Fund & Life Assurance Society has bought the freehold of Cheyne House, Cheapside, London, from Nationwide Building Society. Cheyne House has about 9,000 sq ft, and the vendor, which occupies the lower floors, has taken a leaseback on its premises. Jones Lang Wootton says the purchase, for about £3 million, is a rare transaction in the City because most of the value of the building lies in the retail part.

Provision, a property consultancy, offers another sign of movement in the market, with a reduction of nearly 1.75 million sq ft of available office space in London in the past two months, a fall of more than 4 per cent. A further 936,000 sq ft is under offer.

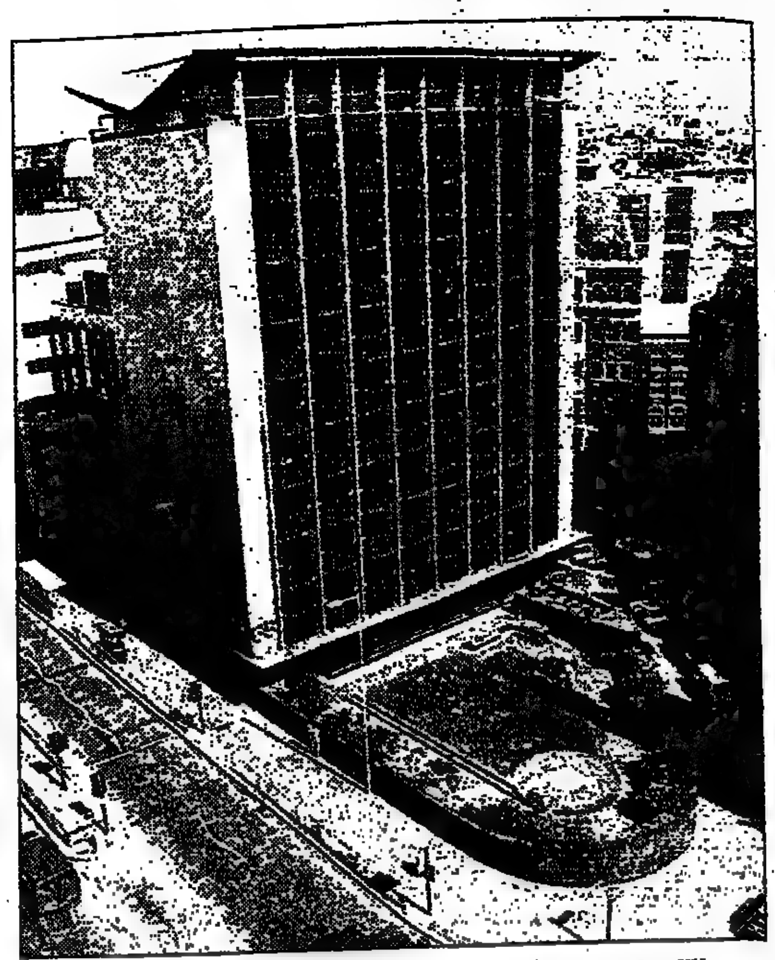
Reductions in floorspace have been recorded in all size ranges, the highest being 6.8 per cent in the largest size band of 100,000 sq ft plus, where there are 55 properties available, a reduction of 2 per cent over the previous total.

Of the total of more than 40 million sq ft of London office space available, more than half is in the City (14.5 million sq ft) and Docklands (6.25 million sq ft).

Continuing oversupply in the City is shown in the latest floorspace survey by Richard Saunders & Partners, which shows that the take-up of space in the City in December was 224,706 sq ft, 23 per cent less than in November and 20 per cent less than the July to December 1991 six-month average.

The agent explains that December was a "short" month and that several decisions were delayed until the New Year. Of the main removals from the market, all involved new developments with the exception of two second-hand properties where the space was withdrawn, illustrating the value for money presented in the central area by the landlords of new schemes. The consequence is continuing pressure on the increasingly competitive and oversupplied second-hand market.

On the City fringes, the December take-up of 316,409 sq ft rose by 12 per cent over November and by 5.6 per cent over the six-month average. Apart from one large deal, the 44,525 sq ft offices at 101 St Martin's Lane, London WC2, most involved small units.



Sold: Citicape House, central London for about £30 million

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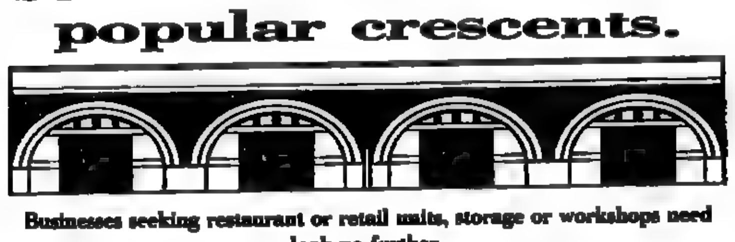

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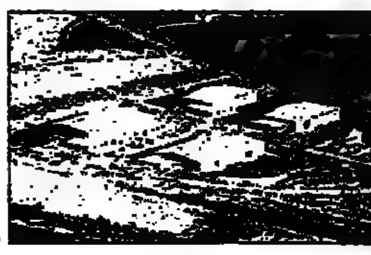
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MAGNIFICENT converted barn Grade II listed, nr Leeds Castle, 4 beds each en suite, 3 recep, ¾ acre, must be viewed. £275,000. Tel: 0622 832 876 (O) 0622 832 877 (Eves W/E)

NORTH WEST
CHESHIRE Chester 20 minutes, Manchester 55 minutes, approx 4 acres, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (2 en-suite), downstairs shower room, 4 receptions, large utility, 4 stables, tack room, lovely views. £275,000. Tel:0948 81607 (eves & weekends).

PRESTWICH (North Manchester). Luxuriously appointed 4-bed, 2 bath townhouse on private road. Offers invited ... £150,000 Tel:061-773 4932.

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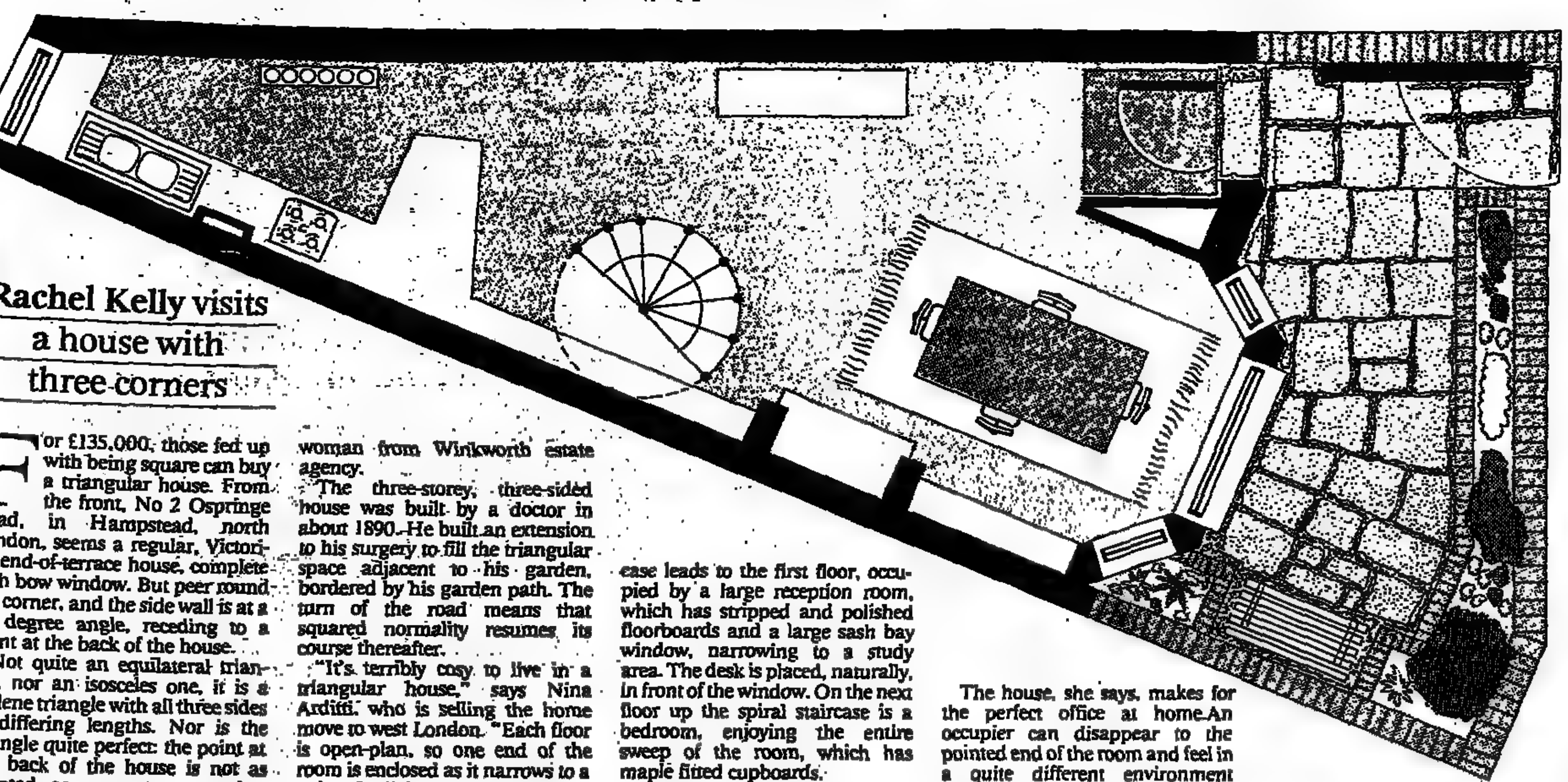
STONE BUILT cottage, (200 years old) carefully restored, (All guaranteed) Detached, 3 bedrms, 2 recaps etc. with 80 scenic acres. Nr Dumfries SW Scotland. £120,000. Tel 039773 484 after dark.

هكذا من الأصل

Life inside a triangle



Rachel Kelly visits a house with three corners

For £135,000, those fed up with being square can buy a triangular house. From the front, No 2 Ospringe Road, in Hampstead, north London, seems a regular, Victorian end-of-terrace house, complete with bow window. But peer round the corner, and the side wall is at a 45 degree angle, receding to a point at the back of the house.

Not quite an equilateral triangle, nor an isosceles one, it is a scalene triangle with all three sides of differing lengths. Nor is the triangle quite perfect: the point at the back of the house is not as pointed as a geometry teacher would require. The end of the angle has been sliced off to fit a tiny window.

"But it's definitely a triangular, three-sided house," says a spokeswoman from Winkworth estate agency.

The three-storey, three-sided house was built by a doctor in about 1890. He built an extension to his surgery to fill the triangular space adjacent to his garden, bordered by his garden path. The turn of the road means that squared normality resumes its course thereafter.

"It's terribly cosy to live in a triangular house," says Nina Arditti, who is selling the home move to west London. "Each floor is open-plan, so one end of the room is enclosed as it narrows to a point. It divides the functions of the room very simply. On the ground floor, the wider end of the room is a dining room and the other end is a kitchen."

A green, ironcast, spiral staircase leads to the first floor, occupied by a large reception room, which has stripped and polished floorboards and a large sash bay window, narrowing to a study area. The desk is placed, naturally, in front of the window. On the next floor up the spiral staircase is a bedroom, enjoying the entire sweep of the room, which has maple fitted cupboards.

Mrs Arditti says there is no need for triangular furniture to match: "Admittedly there's only one right-angled corner, but there is plenty of room along the walls for square furniture."

The house, she says, makes for the perfect office at home. An occupier can disappear to the pointed end of the room and feel in a quite different environment from the roomier, squarer end. The house is the perfect conversation starter, Mrs Arditti says. Everybody, it seems, knows of another house that is star-shaped or round.

The ground floor plan, showing the patio garden at the front. The floor comprises a sitting room and a kitchen, with a spiral staircase

Ticket to buy more debt?

Raffles may seem a good way to sell during a slump, but beware the pitfalls

There are hidden pitfalls in raffling a house, the National Consumer Council (NCC) warns in a report published earlier this month. *(Rachel Kelly writes).*

Homeowners in today's property slump have been seduced by raffle schemes with their property as the prize, but the schemes could be illegal. A raffle in which you plan to sell enough tickets at a given price to meet your target selling price for the house would almost certainly be an illegal lottery. A legal scheme must be a game of skill, says Philip Circus, of the NCC.

He urges homeowners to take legal advice if they plan to run win-a-home contests. He says there can be problems for homeowners who do not get enough entries to meet their target price. Entrants should read the small print. "Will you get all your money back if there are not enough entries to meet the organiser's target?" he says. "My advice to buyers and sellers is: don't do it."

His advice came too late for John Manners-Fenton, who faces bankruptcy after embarking on a win-a-home contest for his £150,000 grade 2 listed house near Manchester last April. "I thought the scheme would be the biggest thing since Littlewoods," he says. He devised a raffle with tickets priced at £6 and six questions about children's fairy-tales.

Despite extensive advertising, he sold only 7,000 tickets, 25,000 short of the 30,000 needed to cover the cost of the house. By the August closing date, he had receipts for only £42,000 but had spent £43,000 on advertising.

He extended the deadline to October, and closed his restaurant business to concentrate on the raffle.

As a condition of extending the deadline, Mr Manners-Fenton had to offer refunds. "About a 1,000 people bailed out," he says.

He failed to sell any more tickets and now faces debts of £43,000.

Hope springs eternal, however, for Alan Mawdsley, who is trying to sell his pub near Ormskirk, Lancashire, by raffling £5 tickets to a value of £500,000. The competition closes in April. Mr Mawdsley says: "The property market was zilch, so I felt I would have a better chance of selling the pub. If I haven't sold enough tickets by then, I will either call the whole thing off and send the money back to participants or extend the competition time."

Mr Manners-Fenton. His advice? "Stick to the pools."

COUNTRY PROPERTY

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In riverside town of Abingdon. Set in mature gardens of approx 1 acre, fitting comprising: 4 receptions, 6 beds, 2 baths, EXTENSIVE WINE CELLARAGE. Large 18th Century coach house within the grounds (offering considerable scope for conversion to offices, surgery, ancillary accommodation etc.) triple garage included. Within 40 mins London, 15 mins Oxford.
Realistic guide price: £395,000
Viewing by appointment.
Tel: 010353 21280443 (Ireland)

ASTON TIRROLD, Didcot, BR Paddington 50 mins. Unusual character property, converted from turn-of century coffee ware house in attractive village location. Ent hall, 2 recep/ lvg rms (one 26ft), 4 beds, stdy, 2 bth/ shwrms, lge kit, full CH, conservatory. Property has received much attn in recent years, potential for further renovation, ¼ acre gdn inc mature orchard, lge wooden barn. £250,000. 0235 850280.

CHARMING 17th cent listed cottage. M40 (J6) 2m, C London 40m, Oxf 15m. refurb/ mod thro'out, hall, lounge, dr, ff kit, utility, study, 3 bed, 2 bath, gdn, gge, sec gdns, circ £200,000. For quick sale, no chain, no agents please. 0844 54117.

SOUTH OXON. N Moreton. Secluded 6 acre plot. Magnif views. P/p for 4 bed hse, garaging, stables & barn. Close to rides. Easy access M4/40. 10 mins Didcot mainline stn. Inc existing 3 bed bungalow £200,000. 0491 36440

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SUSSEX

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BRIGHTON Delightful spacious 2/3 bed maisonette, garden. G/CH. 10 mins walk station, sea. £52,000. 0273 688732

CHICHESTER area. Beautiful seafront home - 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom. Ideal modern family house. Peaked at £372,000, now £220,000 minimum to avoid repossession. Ring: 0243 265556 during office hours for details.

FINDON VALLEY Georg style immac det bung. 3 dble beds lge lnge/diner refit kit/bath. sep wc. GCH. gge. medium gdns. select area 2 miles B. R. Early vacant possession £115,000 no chain. 0903 262607

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HORAM Det hse, 5 bdr, 5 bthrm (4 en-suite), GCH, dbl gl, stable. Idyllic setting adj 2 18 hole golf. £280,000. 04353 2456

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JOHANNESBURG. 21 acres, thatched buildings. £250,000. Phone 010 27 11 659-0774.

SPAIN, DENIA Grnd flr apt. 2 beds, lounge, kit, bathroom, patio. Nr buses & trains. Private complex inc. pool. £38,000, reduction for quick sale. 04824 47768 or 0268 414 731.

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While we take reasonable precautions with all advertisements, readers are strongly advised to take professional advice before paying a deposit or entering into any commitment.

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OVERSEAS PROPERTY

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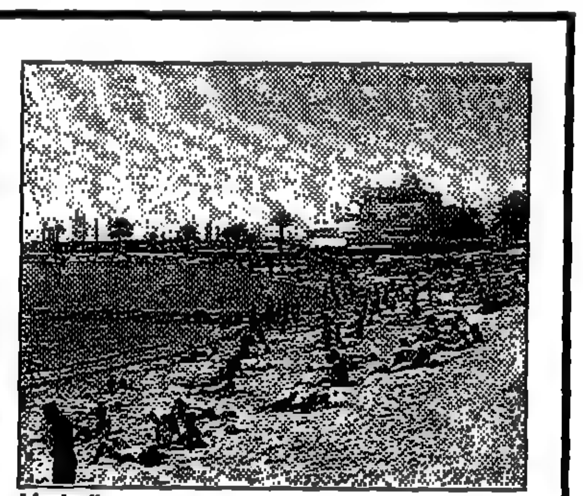

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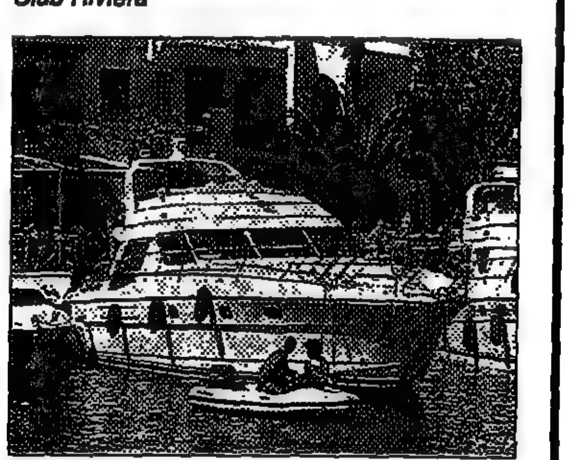

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CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

BURY ST. EDMUNDS Amazing value hugely reduced townhouse. ctr town. 5 bed. [illegible] sitting. drawing rms. utility. kitchen. cellar. gdn. parking. OIRO £185,000 0284 769999.

CHELSEA SW10 *Light, spacious* 3 bed flat on quiet tree-lined street, off Kings Road. 118 yr lease £225,000. 071 930 6089

DRAYCOTT PLACE, SW3. Lux 2 bed apt 97 yr lse. NHBC £229,000. 071 937 4110 T

EARLS COURT SQUARE, SW5. 16x16 studio fully fitted kit. lge bath. 3rd flr. west fcng. Long lease £63,800 Sterling Hanover 071 937 8864/6689 ans

ELSHAM RD. W14. Bright 2 bed patio flat. large recep. Bargain. £90,000. 071 602 8737.

HARCOURT TERRACE. Immaculate garden patio flat with private entrance, recently fully refurbished and modernised to the cost of £70,000. approx 1,000 sq. ft. includes 2 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main reception, separate dining area, study, fully fitted kitchen, rear and centre patio. Reduced to £198,000. 071-373 3216.

INVESTMENT SW10 17 yr lease flat £69,600. Currently let out at £9,100 PA 071 376 5163.

KENSINGTON W14. Smart 2 bed flat. Ideal pied-à-terre, spacious recep, open kit. 120 yrs. £105,000 no chain. 071-602 9177 Eve. 081-974 8890 day.

REDCLIFFE MEWS SW10. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom spacious flat with garage. 93 year lease. £247,000. 071-370 0626

SW5. 2 bed 1st flr flat with French windows onto s/ facing balc o/ looking Bramham Gdns £189,000 Offers invited for quick sale. 071-[illegible]

PUTNEY SALE OR PART EXCHANGE

House 4 beds, 2 baths (1 e/s). Garage. Excellent location of Putney Hill. Good value at £175,000 Will consider Central London flat. (preferably Chelsea/ Fulham) in part exchange.
(0825) 790978

BALHAM Bargain. Excellent 3 bed Victorian house. Completely and beautifully renovated. Huge kitchen. Tube & BR. 7 mins. Must be seen. Quick sale. £134,950 No chain. 081-675 1892 anytime

BALHAM. Mod well located 2 dble bed gdn flat. Sitting rm. dining rm. K&B. GCH. BR/tube/bus 5 mins. good value. £90,000. 081-678 6672

CAMBERWELL. Lge sunny 3 *bed mais* 2 baths, new kit & new dble glazed windows. Exc transport. OSP. For immediate sale £84,000. 071 701 7872 sun/eves 071 235 6600 wk

CLAPHAM PARK Immaculate 2/3 bed 1830s terraced cottage in quiet location backing onto private common land with windmill. Newly fitted country-style kit & bath. GCH. Victorian fireplaces. stained-glass doors. £112,000 Tel: 081-674 9009.

CLAPHAM SOUTH. 4 bed hse, 3 recep. plus gdn. £123,000. No catch! Tel: 081 675 9290.

GOWRIE ROAD, SW11 Immac 3 dbl bed hse. Newly fit kit. Realistically priced to sell. £139,950 071 228 0023 (T)

OVERLOOKING Clapham Common. Interior designed 2 bed flat. All original features. Nr tube £120,000 071 228 0023 T

PRINCE OF WALES Drive. O/looking Battersea Park stunning 3 bed 2 bath flat. 26' recep. £230,000 071 228 0023 (T)

PUTNEY Beautifully refurbished five bedroom period house in West Putney. Elegant recs. 3 baths (1 en suite), w.facing gdn. £338,000 Douglas & Gordon 081 785 6222

SW12 Nightingale Triangle. 4 bed. 2 bath. Close to common and BR and tube. Orig features. Lovely house. £174,000. Tel: 081-675 1292 or 0831 126684.

WANDSWORTH/BATTERSEA Border. Ideal starter flat. Bright one bedroomed garden flat. Dble bdrm. lvg rm. k&b. walk-in store room. CH, off st.pkg. £61,000. Tel: 081-870 2796. 071-734 1660 (week days).

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

WANDSWORTH COMMON 4 bed house in quiet road, close Common. 3 receps, bathrm + shower, kit, part CH. Garden 70ft. F/hold £220,000 Andrew Milton & Co 081 767 0078

HAMPSTEAD & HIGHGATE

HIGHGATE VILLAGE Immaculate Grade II Listed Georgian terrace house. Good decorative order. 3/4 beds, 2/3 recepts, 2 baths, front and rear garden. Off st parking £289,000 ono Tel: 071-935 3881 (daytime). 081-341 6622 (eves/ wknds)

WIMBLEDON

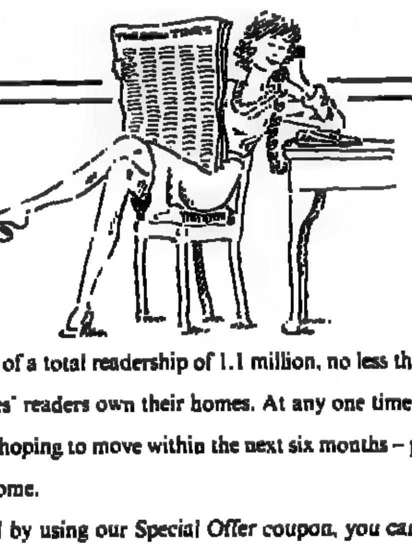
DETACHED bungalow off Ridgeway, 3 beds, kit, bathrm, sep WC, 2 recep, lge sunny walled garden, lge garage, workshop, GCH, 2 car driveway. £226,000. 081 940 3693.

WIMBLEDON PARK Kenilworth Ave. Lge semi 2 recep lse immac. 6 bed. 2 bath. CH. Garden. New roof. Close tube. £270,000. Quick sale. 081-947 3409 or Fax:081-879 3887

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

ALTENBURG GDNS, SW11 3 dbl bed immac flat cls to Clap'm Jcn. £118,000 071 228 0023 T

First she read The Times. Then she bought my flat.



Out of a total readership of 1.1 million, no less than 88% of The Times' readers own their homes. At any one time, 96,000 of them are hoping to move within the next six months – possibly into your home.

And by using our Special Offer coupon, you can tell all these prospective buyers more about your house, while saving money. Just place a three line advertisement using this coupon within four weeks, and you'll get a fourth line absolutely free.

A four-line ad normally costs £25.30*, including VAT. But use the Special Offer coupon, and these four lines will only cost you £18.98.

So if you want to sell your house, put four lines in The Times. You're not likely to find an estate agent's window as big.

Please ensure your completed coupon arrives at least three days before the date of insertion.

Source. NRS Jan - Dec 1990

BUY THREE LINES, GET THE FOURTH LINE FREE

Write your advertisement below (approximately 28 characters per line including spaces and punctuation)

Name ____________
Address ____________

No advertisements can be accepted under these special terms unless pre-paid. Cheques should be made payable to Times Newspapers Limited or debit my:

ACCESS ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX ☐ DINERS ☐

Card No. ____________
Expiry Date ____________

Telephone (daytime) ____________
Signature ____________

This offer is open to private advertisers only. Trade advertisements will appear subject to the normal rates and conditions.
Send to: Simon Goddard, The Times Classified Advertisement Manager, News International Ltd., P.O Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9BL.

THE TIMES

TTC

* Applies to a four-line classified advertisement and includes VAT. Each additional line will be charged at a rate of £6.33 (inclusive of VAT). A line constitutes approximately 28 characters including spaces and punctuation. The Times, News International Ltd., P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9BL.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

OFFICE MANAGER/PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR OF DESIGN COMPANY

Enthusiastic, dedicated and well-organised team member, with a sense of humour, required for friendly and exciting Graphic Design company in Putney.

2-3 years experience in a design environment essential. The applicant should have a working knowledge of how design and production jobs are processed and financially managed. 23/26 years old, RSA II typing and computerised book-keeping skills to balance sheet.

SECRETARY TO DESIGNERS

Highly skilled secretary required to become a team member to provide support to designers in the studio of a busy graphic design company. RSA II typing and word processing skills are essential.

Applications in writing together with full c.v. and present salary details to:-

Sian Marlow,
Egg Design, 5 Crescent Stables,
London SW15 2TX

INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC AGENCY

One of the world's leading suppliers of photography for the advertising, publishing, corporate and travel markets.

SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTORS UP TO £17,000

We are a friendly, very busy and highly successful company housed in a newly refurbished HQ, in the media community of Camden Town. You'll work for the senior Directors of the Group on a range of interesting tasks, and there will be some administrative and PA duties. Word Perfect and shorthand an advantage. The rapid expansion of the Group is creating excellent career prospects for our brightest people and we would be glad to hear from you if you are over 27 and like the feel of this ad. Your CV please, in confidence, to Derek Karum.

Tony Stone Worldwide
Worldwide House
116 Bayham Street
LONDON NW1 OBA

POLITICS & PUBLISHING £15,500

One of the fastest moving political consultancies, with bases in London, Washington and Brussels, needs a clever, quick and hard-working assistant to *provide secretarial, publishing and administrative* support. 60/90 plus Wordstar & Pagemaker DTP skills and an interest in politics. Age 27 - 40. Dress and lunch allowance plus bonuses.
Send details to Penny Thomas, The Public Policy Unit 90 Rochester Row London SW1P 1JU Fax: 071 828 7217

MAYFAIR

Top Secretary/ PA required to join small team in profitable, expanding company. Smart appearance and communication skills, together with WP/ PC experience and shorthand required. Ability to start almost immediately a necessity.

Please send CV to:-
The Chairman
London & General Property Ltd
17/18 Dover Street
London W1X 3PB

MANPOWER

SENIOR SECRETARIES

We require PA's, with executive level experience, for a variety of short and long term City assignments, shorthand an advantage.
For excellent rates and benefits call:-
Carolyn Thorson - Branch Manager
MANPOWER (Emp Agy), 1 *Pudding Lane, on*
071-831 6868

INCENTIVE TRAVEL COMPANY, W1

Busy and successful incentive travel company requires *PA/Secretary to assist the Managing Director.*
Full secretarial support requiring good skills (100/60). Age 25+. Organisational ability to deal with day to day running *of the office, recruitment of junior staff etc. Salary A.A.E.* "Non smoking" office. Please apply in writing with C.V. to:
International Vacationers, 1 Sherwood Street, Piccadilly Circus, London W1V 7RA
A Member of the WPP Group
(no agencies please)

PA/SENIOR SECRETARY

Exciting opportunity for articulate, organised secretary at exclusive Knightsbridge travel PR company. Must have sound secretarial background, be computer literate with audio experience and confident telephone manner. Age 25-35. Salary circa £15,000. NO AGENCIES
CV to: ANN SCOTT ASSOCIATES NUMBER ONE, 60 CHEVAL PLACE, LONDON SW7 1EN

Crème de la Crème

also appears in
THE TIMES
on
Monday & Thursday
To place your advertisement
071 481 4481

SUPER SECRETARIES

CHARITY START-UP £20,000

An exciting opportunity exists for a top PA/Sec to help set up and run a prestigious Charity.

Your role is demanding as you field calls, manage programmes and coordinate meetings. You should be socially aware, used to dealing at the highest level, diplomatic and exceptionally well organised, with a friendly and outgoing personality.

This is an unusual job and any relevant experience will put you ahead of the other formidable competition.

Age 28-40. Skills 90/60

ANGELA MORTIMER
Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy
071 726 8491

ADVERTISING - £16,000 - Potential career move for Sec/PA in mid to late twenties. Join this young but much respected and fast expanding agency with impressive client list. Definitely not work shy, you should have a flexible attitude to your work duties which will range from answering the telephone to working on new business and helping with creative sourcing. You must be well educated, on the ball and have fast accurate typing and W.P. experience - preferably Apple Mac. Experience in a creative environment is essential. Norma Skemp Rec Ltd - 071 222 5091

AFFINITY with figures £16,000 needed when you join the Finance Director of this major group. Traditional Senior Sec. role requiring *90/60 skills, WP* and financial exp. Caroline King Appts 071-499 8070

BANKING opportunity c£12,000+ Mort Subs. This prestigious merchant bank seeks a very well spoken and well groomed person to carry out a rec/tel/typing role. You'll need to be confident and totally professional as you'll liaise with VIP's within this very busy dept. 50 wpm typing needed. Please telephone 071-248 3744. Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

CAREER opportunity for ambitious young Secretary who enjoys variety and challenge. Marketing Dept of expanding US Co will welcome your fast audio/copy skills, media background & outgoing personality. City based. c£14,500 + package. Norton Rec Cons 071 823 2882.

DOCKLANDS - £12,500 + c.6 weeks holidays. Wonderful opportunity for smart 2nd jobber based on the luxurious Executive floor. As Junior Secretary there is real scope to develop and learn. 56+ audio and WP. Please telephone 071 405 0247 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

FASHION PA £18K + Bens. Challenging role for someone able to handle Press, Media and a dynamic Chief Executive. A rare chance for a stylish PA with 110wpm Shorthand & related high profile exp. W. London. Aged 24-35. Royds Raphael Rec 071-287 2050.

HUNTING. Shooting. fishing £23,000 pkg. These are the personal interests of this Exec Dir at this prestigious American Bank. As his PA you will co-ordinate both his business and personal life as well as overseeing the smooth running of the busy office. 100/60 skills. Age 25+. Call Leigh Recruitment 071-495 3820

LEAD Dealer, heading up young team of 30 traders, sales assistants and secretaries, needs a bright, switched on secretary with excellent skills (90/60) - enthusiasm and initiative a must! In addition to organising hectic diaries, arranging travel itineraries and preparing presentations, you will co-ordinate all client entertainment for the department - Wimbledon French Open, Ascot, Brands Hatch etc as well as monitoring the team's expenses and doubling as Office Administrator. 24-28. £16,000 plus travel subsidy and profit share. If you are looking for a career move into an exciting, progressive, international environment and have the above skills plus two years City, or Big Company experience, please call Marianne Hope MacBlain Nash on 071-872 8887.

£14,000 a/i + 29 days holiday: Venture Capital. This high profile position would suit a young secretary with financial services experience who is looking for scope within a fast-moving environment. As part of a young professional team, you will initially be providing full secretarial support to 2 busy directors, gradually becoming more involved in Co. research & PR activities. 'A'level standard preferred. Age: 22-26. Skills: 60 typing Wordperfect 5.1. 071 831 1220 The Recruitment Company.

PA £16,000. Work in a superb location for a famous Design and Lifestyle Co, by taking care of their charming & dynamic F.D.'s diverse projects. Ideally suit someone aged 22+ with 1 yrs finance experience. Rusty SH/ 60 typing. With good Education & presentation. Royds Raphael Rec 071-287 2060.

PARTNER'S PA £16,000. This well established insurance company seeks an experienced secretary with a solid work background to assist this successful partner and ensure the smooth running of his office. 100/60 skills needed. Please telephone 071-248 3744. Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

PERSONNEL to £18,000. Large blue chip company seeks a PA/Group Personnel Administrator *with practical experience* to become responsible for a HO division of 100 employees. Age 25-40. skills of 90/60wpm required. For full details, call Hodge Recruitment (071) 629 8863.

PERSONNEL PA/Sec to £16,500. EC4. Age: 23-40. 100 sh/accurate typing for 15% of the time & the rest total back-up to a busy dept. within large successful Co. Personnel exp. a must. Ring 071 734 7282 Mary Overton Recruitment.

PR Assistant needed to help run the PR Dept. of a major Spirits Company based in St. James'. As part of a small team your varied duties will require excellent communication skills as you arrange visits, co-ordinate displays, maintain promotional stocks and provide secretarial support. 'A'levels and 60 wpm typing essential. Experience in PR Consultancy and shorthand an advantage. Salary £13,000. Age 22-25. Please call Samantha Brander on 071 437 6032 Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

PR Dept. of American Bank. *City area req confident sec. demanding position.* £14,500 pa + perks. For full details call Wayne Hahn on 071-437 4083

RESEARCH *Group req bright sec to assist with analysis using* Applemac & Lotus. £14,500 pa + perks. For full details call Wayne Hahn on 071-437 4083

SALES Assistant: a real career opportunity has arisen to join a leading US investment bank. Based on the dealing floor, you will work with a team of sales *people, confirming trades, writing tickets, quoting stock prices* and ensuring the desk runs smoothly. It is a frenetic, dynamic and young environment and requires an assertive personality with A-levels and a steady secretarial background. Age 20's. Excellent banking package and lots of paid overtime on offer. Please telephone Caroline Smith for further details on 071 377 8827. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants

SECRETARY/ Receptionist for 2 Directors of small friendly firm in luxurious offices in SW1. Flexibility, a smart appearance, good audio skills and a cheerful outgoing personality are prerequisites. £14,000-£15,000. Call Lyn Wilde on 071-439 7001 Secretaries Plus - The Secretarial Consultants.

SENIOR Sales Sec/PA required by the dynamic, newly appointed Sales Controller of a busy sales/adv office in WC1. This is a challenging and responsible role, totally structuring his hectic days, supervising a junior secretary, monitoring expenses and handling sales administration. You must have a solid secretarial background (5 yrs) and be confident of your organisational and secretarial skills (90/60). Age 26-35. Maths O'level. Sal £16,000 + Bens. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071 437 6032. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

TOP Equity Dealers seek organised team sec. Mid twenties 90/60 skills. £13,500 + brilliant banking bens. Call J S Appointments 071 381 6742.

WEST End Gallery requires Girl Friday. typing essential. Telephone 10-6 071-262 4906

PART TIME VACANCIES

SECRETARY to work 10-3 for senior man in friendly organisation in W1. Good shorthand + the ability to liaise at the highest political and commercial levels. Age 25-45. £10,000. Call Lyn Wilde on 071-439 7001 Secretaries Plus - The Secretarial Consultants.

SMALL friendly ch. surveyors practice needs efficient part-timer with v. g. sec. skills. 1-5.30pm Mon-Fri. 071 221 3886

TEMPTING TIMES

BILINGUAL Italian/ German Secs urgently reqd for long & short bkgs. MsWord/ Windows pref. Top rates. 071-287 0424 Language Recruitment Services

WORD for Windows and Powerpoint secretaries urgently required for long and short term assignments. Must be well presented with excellent skills for professional Co. Also required Uniplex, Applemac and Mass 11 secretaries for City and West End bookings. Call Jenny on 071-631 4916 Sec-vers Ltd (Rec Cons)

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

ITALIAN BANKING SEC
c£15,000 + Bens

A mature well presented and cheerful sec is sought to work in this major Co as sec to the Head of Dept. Typing 50 wpm & experience in banking ess. English & Italian must be fluent.

Call Boyce Bilingual 071-287 4060 or fax CV to 071-494 4692

BILINGUAL *English/ Italian PA* for Business Dir. Fully involved & able to deputise in Dir's absence. sound sec skills. 3/4 yrs exp with gd communication skills ess. c£16k. Link Language Appts 071-408 2150.

FRANKFURT based position for Eng MT qualified Secretary/ PA with good understanding of German. Secr. qualifications and exp. ess. Sal £12K - £16,800 + exc. ben. Call Eagle Recruitment on 071-823 9255 for immediate interview.

FRENCH *£16,500. Use your fluent french on a daily basis as* sec/PA to the Vice Chairman of major Cosmetic Co. Responsibilities will include organising and attending meetings, diary management and full secretarial support. This is an interesting and busy role for someone with previous senior level experience and secretarial skills of 90/60. Age 28-40. For this and other positions using fluent french please call Samantha Brander on 071 437 6032. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

FRENCH - Join this prestigious Int Co as Bi-lingual Executive Secretary, where your language & admin skills will be fully utilised. Lots of involvement/client contact. Audio needed. £14,000. Dynamic Secretaries Rec Cons 071 495 3393.

JAPANESE *m/f Liaison Officer* req'd for City financial co. Knowledge of Japanese & Eng WP systems and ability to translate from and to Japanese essential; basic financial knowledge req'd. Salary 17½k + exc bens. Call Cavell Bilingual Rec Cons 071-355 3977.

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Parlez Vous Francais?
£11,000 - £16,000

Enthusiastic, young French-speaking secretaries who want to get their careers going are needed by thriving international company based in wonderful West End offices. If you enjoy a friendly, team-spirited environment and have just completed a graduate bilingual course, or are looking for that important second or third job, these exciting opportunities may be just what you're looking for. Perfect English and sound Secretarial skills essential.

For further information please telephone Fiona Marriott on 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill
Multilingual

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES
Recruitment Consultants

ITALIAN — To 18K + pkge
Bilingual PA/Secretary who will probably be at least thirty, to work for chief executive in the City. A job calling for director-level experience, some of which should have been in banking. Italian mother tongue.

GERMAN — To £16500
Opportunity with large City law firm for a bilingual Audio-Secretary of German mother tongue, likely to be in mid-twenties, to work for woman solicitor dealing with Germany. You can start on temp-to-perm basis.

PARIS — Circa £14/15000
Genuine Bilingual Secretary with excellent French and English and good secretarial skills (French shorthand preferred) for a very bilingual banking job in Paris. If you are looking for your second job, please ring:

071 836 3794
22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

BILINGUAL RECEPTIONIST (French)
£12,000 plus benefits

City based investment group requires french-speaking receptionist to join its team. We're looking for someone with initiative who is well organised and has basic w.p. skills. Would suit first jobber or mature person returning to work after career break. Interested? Send your current C.V. and a covering letter to:

Joanna Bailey, The London Partnership Limited
Giltspur House, 6 Giltspur Street, London EC1A 9DE
No agencies, please.

ARABIC SECRETARY
£14,000 + BANK BENS

An Arabic M.T. standard sec with good typing skills in Eng & Arabic is sought to work for Head of Private Banking in this West End based Co.

Call Boyce Bilingual 071-287 4060 or fax CV to 071-494 4692

JAPANESE - MT translator /liaison asst for intl info services co. Prev work exp, word-processing and valid work permit essential. c£17,000 neg. CLC Language Services 071-859 5365

LATIN American Investment Company requires spanish speaking assistant to two Fund Managers. Duties include client liaison, data input and transaction co-ordination. Settlements experience (or similar) and computer skills desirable. Typing 40 wpm. Salary to £14,000, aged 19-24. Please call Esther Marsan on 071 377 9919. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

ITALIAN lingual PA sought by Director of Intl Co. Lots of involvement & ops to use initiative. Exc sec skills & fluent Italian. Age 25-35. To £16,500. The Language Specialists. Merrow Emp Agy 071 499 3939.

PARISIAN - Trader - Personal Assistant/Secretary. London based. Age 22-28. Salary £16,000 + £6,000 package. 1-2 years' experience in the financial sector of a major PLC and conversational French is all you need to advance your career with this highly successful international bank noted for European excellence. The work is interesting and varied, ranging from co-ordinating the settlement of deals, setting up meetings and making international travel arrangements to organising entertainment for visiting clients and helping Directors from the Paris office to settle into their new surroundings. This position would suit the career minded. Please call Diane Denny at MacBlain Nash on 071 872 8889.

TRILINGUAL French & German sec/asst to small team of dynamic execs in growing investment co. Scope for involvement for outgoing individual. Rusty SH. 60 wpm typing. £14,000 + bens. The Language Specialists. Merrow Emp Agy 071 499 3939.

PROFILES
071 481 4481

Creme de la Creme

Looking for a new PA/Secretary opportunity, advertise your skills in The Times Creme de la Creme Profiles. Price £[illegible] plus VAT for 4 x 1 (minimum size) semi display (£[illegible] per additional centimetre).

DO YOU NEED A PROFESSIONAL PA?

I am a 24 year old PA with 4 years experience. Skills include SH and typing of 50 wpm, audio and varied WP experience. I am looking for a position in W1 area, working for a friendly, fun co, 5 weeks hols, Bupa, Pension. Salary c£15,000. If you are in need of an efficient, self motivated and well presented PA, don't delay.

Reply to Box No.

Example of a 4 x 1 semi display ad.

PLACING A CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS SECTION OF THE TIMES IS EASY, SIMPLY COMPLETE THE COUPON BELOW OR CALL: 071 481 4481. ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

PRINT YOUR AD BELOW IN BLOCK CAPITALS
underline letters you require as capitals.

POST TO: Classified Advertisement Department
Times Newspapers Limited, PO Box 484, Virginia Street,
London E1 9BL. Fax: 071-782 7826 071-782 7827

To ensure publication on Monday we must receive your advertisement no later than 5:00pm Friday. Terms and conditions available on request.

PLEASE FILL IN THE COUPON IN BLOCK CAPITALS

First Name: Middle: Surname:
Address
Daytime Tel. Post Code
Date(s) of appearance
Box No £10 extra Yes No
Credit Card No Cheque
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS Expiry Date DO NOT SEND CASH
Cardholders Address if different from above:
Post Code
Address for Box Number replies if different from above:
Post Code

هكذا من الأصل

071-481 4481

CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX 071-481 9313
071-782 7828

Young Vikings
£14,000 + bkg bens

An energetic young team of bankers specialising in the Scandinavian market seeks a bright and confident secretary to assist them. They live and work in the fast lane, jetting off on regular business trips, making presentations to clients and clinching deals. They will need you to hold the fort, organise their hectic schedules and produce reports and proposals of the highest quality on Microsoft Word for Windows. (Familiarity with Pagemaker and Lotus 123 also an advantage). Typing: 60 wpm. Age: 22-26. Please telephone Elizabeth Williamson on 071-377 9919.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

The Charmer
£15,500 + bens

A brand new role has arisen within an international firm of insurance brokers in the City. As PA/Secretary to a Board Director your days will be extremely varied as you support him, organising his busy diary, arranging travel, meeting visitors and liaising at a senior level. He is a charming man with a wonderful sense of humour and the ideal candidate will have a personality to match his. Skills: 90/50/ audio. Age: mid - late 20's. Please telephone Esther Marsden on 071 377 9919.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Rags to Riches
£16,000

Fed up with the fast lane? Keen to find a senior level job that doesn't require long hours and intense pressure? Young retail clothing company based near Oxford Circus needs an experienced board level secretary to work for four senior Directors. This is a new position so there are opportunities to create your own role. Essential responsibilities will include full secretarial support, using shorthand, diary management and various ad hoc duties. Spreadsheet experience essential. Fantastic discounts on fashions. Age: 30-36. Please call Samantha Brander on 071-437 6032.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Only the Best
£15-16,000
Age: 23-26

Only the best cross the threshold of this hugely successful firm of management consultants. Based in extremely smart offices in St James's you will be looking after a Partner and his team. Natural charm and social awareness are vital as you liaise with important clients and make sure his office runs faultlessly. Skills of 60+ wpm audio typing essential to cope with a heavy workload. Superb benefits including paid overtime. Please call Lynne Dawson on 071-437 6032.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Stripey Shirts
Covent Garden
C£13-14,000

Delightful team of executives at this small elite company specialising in sponsoring new businesses require a secretary. This is a smashing opportunity for someone with approximately 2 years experience to join a fun sociable company. You will be meeting and greeting their very important clients, organising meetings and dealing with their correspondence (copy typing). For this role you must be well-spoken, well-presented, confident of your social graces and able to stand the pace when a deal is in the offing. Age: 21-24. Skills: 50wpm typing. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071-437 6032.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

75 1916-1991

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING

Temporary
Part-Time Secretary

20-25 hours per week

To work as part of an administration secretarial team supporting the General Secretary and Honorary officers. The appointment will be for at least three months.

High calibre secretarial skills will be needed, gained at a senior level. You should have good organisation and communication skills, fast typing/audio/shorthand and be able to use own initiative. The work will be interesting, confidential and demanding.

Salary for the full-time equivalent (35 hours) would be £15,089-£17,933 pa including London Weighting, e.g. pro rata for 20 hours would be £8,622-£10,247 pa. Hours will be by mutual arrangement. Good terms and conditions including 28 days' annual leave pa. Non-smoking working environment.

For more information and an application form, telephone 071-409 1244 (24 hours) or write to Trevor Pelico, Personnel Manager, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB, quoting ref: RCN/1439. Closing date: 7th February. Interviews will be held on 13th February 1992.

The RCN is committed to Equal Opportunities

RTITB SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
WEMBLEY **to £19,000**

The new Chief Executive of RTITB Services, a leading training company, with plans for growth in this country and overseas, is looking for an exceptionally capable Secretary to help him in his busy and demanding role.

You must be an excellent communicator who not only has first class technical skills, but the tact, discretion and experience to work confidently with colleagues, customers and contacts throughout the world.

We offer excellent salary and benefits for this challenging and important job.

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First class players

Peter Davenport reports on the success of regeneration in county Durham

If prime ministers can scatter political speeches with questionable sporting analogies, then the people guiding County Durham on its path from a past of heavy industry to an economically brighter future may justifiably claim to be on somewhat firmer ground in their future promotional campaigns.

"First class cricket — first class county" and "County Durham — Number One" are just two of the slogans, emblazoned beneath the smiling figures of Ian Botham and Liz McColgan, likely to figure prominently in advertisements aimed at catching the eye of investors, industrialists and developers looking for sites.

On April 19, Botham and his Durham colleagues will start the county's first season in first-class cricket at home to Lancashire. By 1995 the county side will have headquarters in a ground at Chester-le-Street that will be at the heart of a £25 million sporting, leisure and tourist development.

Any time McColgan, the world 10,000 metres champion, appears in an event around the world expect to see hoardings and pictures of her wearing the "County Durham-1" vest she sported when winning the international cross country event at Beamish open air museum at the end of last year.

The past Durham is escaping from is visible at Easington, the decaying site of one of the last two remaining collieries in a coalfield that once boasted 150 pits and 100,000 miners. The future is at to Newton Aycliffe near Darlington, the location of the clinically modern, £400 million Fujitsu factory. The location was chosen for the quality of its water and air, and by 1995 1,500 workers will be turning out countless semiconductors. It is, after Nissan's Washington factory, the largest Japanese investment in the north-east.

Fujitsu is one of 79 foreign companies that operate in Durham. Last year the County Durham Development Company, the inward investment arm of the county council, received a further 143 inquiries from companies interested in new sites, only 36 of them from within the UK.

It is a far cry from the 1970s and 1980s, which saw the main decline in the region's traditional industries of coal, steel and heavy engineering. The county no longer produces steel (the people of Consett know exactly what those in Ravenscraig are experiencing), no railway engines or rolling stock and the coalfield now employs only 3,000.

Ken Frankish: good things

Three decades ago the county council realised the importance of "re-greening" the region to make it attractive once more as a place to live and work. The policy has been the bedrock of a success that has enabled Durham to ride out the present recession.

Although it has lost 5,000 jobs, many in the shrinking textiles sector, in the last year, it would have been many more if it had still been reliant on a few, basic industries. There are currently around 25,000 people out of work, 12.2 per centre of its 220,000 workforce.

There are now companies engaged in advanced technology, including electronics, engineering, advanced materials, biotechnology, information technology, pharmaceuticals, plastics, food and drinks.

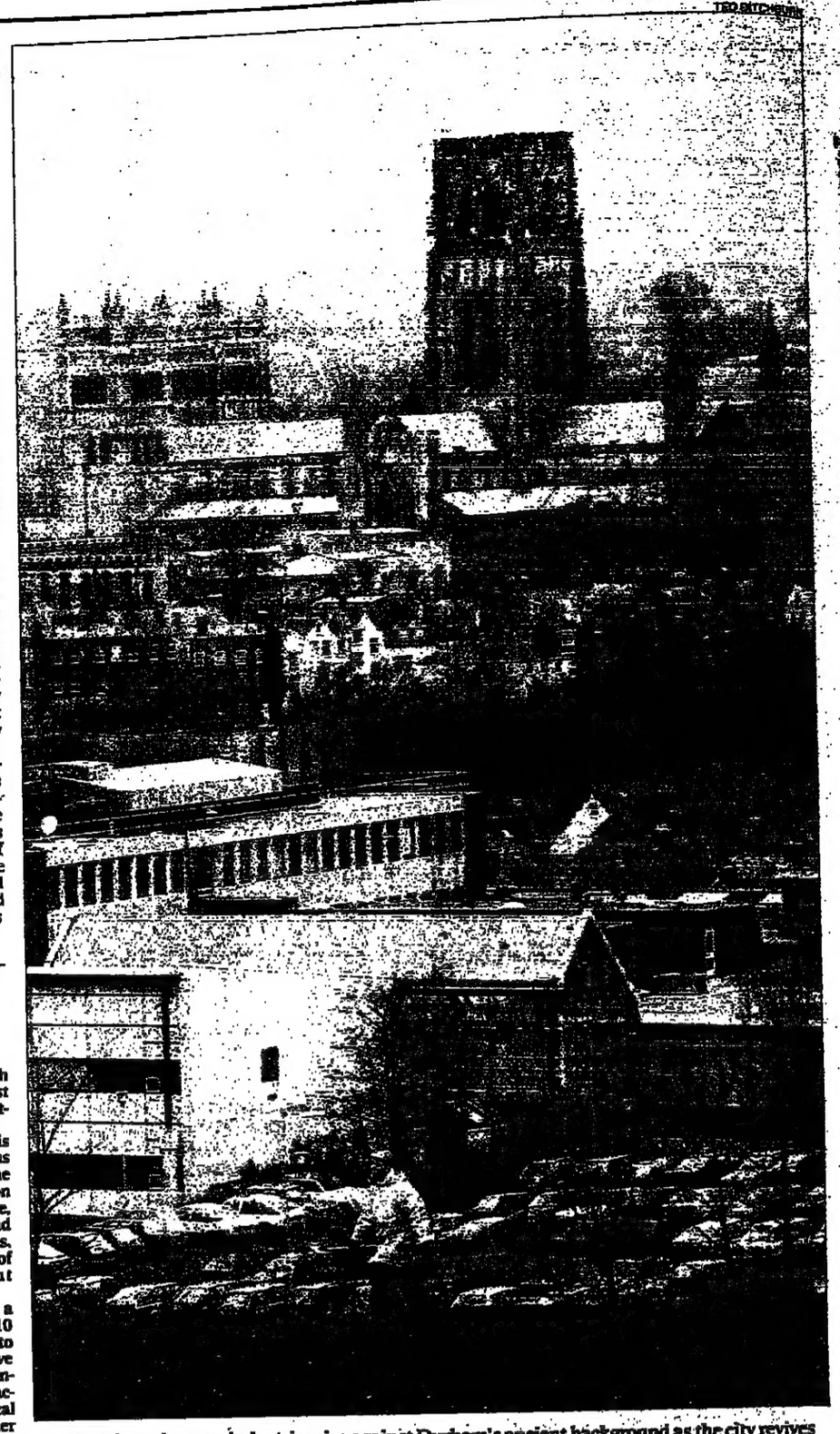
Kingsley Smith is chief executive of the county council, an organisation that employs 26,000 staff has a budget of some £500 million a year and is, therefore, a pivotal player in economic re-building. He says the county is poised to capitalise on actions, initiatives and internal re-organisations taken by the authority over the last four years.

"By the year 2000 I would say that Durham will be one of the most attractive counties in the country and probably one of the most sought after places to live and work because the quality of life here is absolutely phenomenal."

Durham has had to fight hard for its fortune, wedged as it is between the industrial conglomerations of Teesside and Tyneside, both with government funded development corporations ploughing hundred of millions of pounds into major development schemes.

The city is a big attraction both for tourists and companies wanting a prestige address; many of the high-tech companies now operating in the county are also lured by research facilities available at Durham University. Road communications have been radically improved and the airports at Newcastle and Teesside are easily accessible.

Ken Frankish, the county's director of economic development, is delighted at the success of Durham cricket, supported by the council, in gaining first class county status: "There are a lot of good things happening here, we are weathering the recession well and making our plans for the end of it. So first class cricket, first class county! Why not?"



Industrious city: new industries rise against Durham's ancient background as the city revives

Old king coal's sad soul

East Durham is attempting to generate jobs as the mining industry contracts

A map of the Durham Coalfield in 1950 displayed so many black dots representing working collieries that it looked like a bad case of measles: today the disease affecting the industry is rather more serious, in fact terminal.

Less than 45 years ago there were still 134 active pits employing more than 100,000 men. Now only two, Vane Tempest and Easington, both in east Durham and providing work for around 3,000, remain and it is thought they too will disappear in the near future.

East Durham is the most socially, economically and environmentally deprived corner of the county, one that has missed out on the impressive improvements that have taken place elsewhere. An official report on the area says, without optimism, that 22,000 jobs need to be created just to get the unemployment rate down to the national average. It adds: "If there are more colliery closures, unemployment rates of 30 to 40 per cent in east Durham can be anticipated."

Such statistics smack uncomfortably of the 1930s. It is just not the spectre of severely rising unemployment that plagues East Durham. Its population is declining as the young leave to seek opportunity elsewhere. Surveys indicate that people have worse health than average and die younger; fewer own homes and cars; and greater numbers are quitting education at 16.

The environmental legacy of a dying coal industry mean there are 150 hectares of derelict colliery land to tidy up and the annual tipping of 1.5 million tonnes of solid pit waste and 2 billion litres of liquid waste into the sea has despoiled what could be an attractive coastline.

There is nothing sadder and more dispiriting than a pit village without its pit and many of the communities in East Durham bear a run-down and depressed appearance that would stretch the imagination of even the most generous entrepreneur committed to industrial regeneration.

In an attempt to tackle what is admitted to be the most serious problem currently facing the county, last year saw the creation of the East Durham Task Force, bringing together 15 public and private sector organisations, including the regional directors of the major government departments.

The task force has produced a rolling programme for the next 10 years to spend £158 million to create 8,000 new jobs, improve the environment, increase training, provide new roads and factories and enhance the physical condition of many of the former mining villages.

Industry's grime cleared

The county has been reclaiming land for more than 30 years

The view from David Newbegin's office window at the headquarters of Durham County Council offers a panorama that takes in the rooftops of the old city and the towering presence of its castle and cathedral.

But Mr Newbegin, the council's environment director draws the visitor's attention to the small, tree-planted hillock just across the car park. It was once the spoil heap of the now defunct Aykley Heads colliery and an early example of successful land reclamation.

For the last 30 years the council, together with the district authorities, has pursued a vigorous and ambitious policy to re-green a county that was once one of the most blighted in the United Kingdom, bearing a hideous legacy of spoil heaps from 150 collieries, steelworks' slag tips, abandoned brick ovens and defunct coke works. A single undertaking, the reclamation of the 700-acre site of the former steel works at Consett, which closed in 1980, was the largest such scheme in Europe.

To date more than 16 square miles of scarred land has been re-claimed for use as golf courses, country parks, conservation sites and modern industrial estates. About 50 miles of disused railway has been turned into a network of walkways, bridlepaths and cycle tracks.

Hundreds of old and ugly buildings have been torn down in almost 1,000 separate schemes. More than 27 million tonnes of waste have been removed and two million trees planted.

The programme has thrown up some unexpected finds: a £3.5 million scheme to rid Durham of one of its last major pitheaps unearthed a hidden valley, last seen more than 50 years ago. The forgotten valley of Kelloe Beck is now being returned to its former condition.

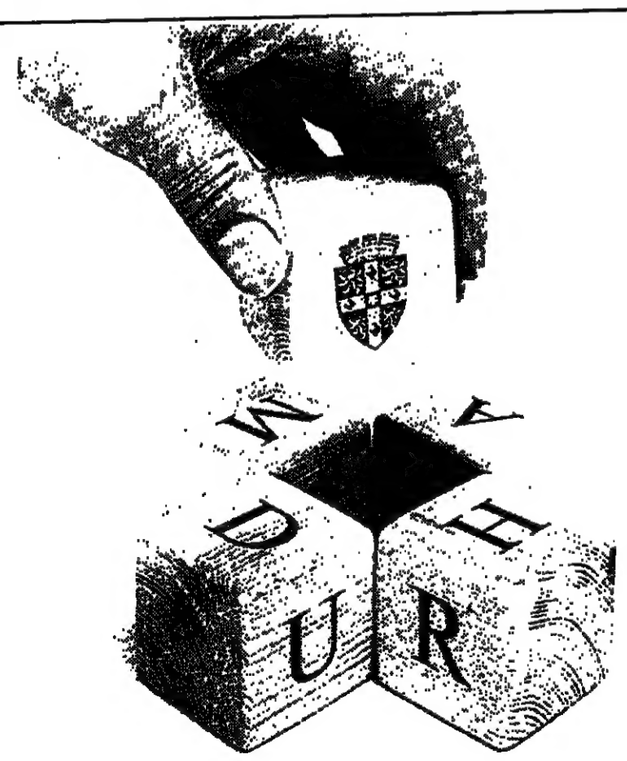
So far reclamation has cost about £500 million and the continuing programme eats up a further £2 million each year. The county is the busiest and most successful applicant for government derelict land grant funds.

Durham's work has earned the county national and international awards as well as interest from other authorities in the UK and former communist nations that are just beginning to tackle the environmental catastrophes created by their outdated industries.

East Durham's coast, blackened by the dumping of colliery spoil, will be the last great work. David Newbegin says: "In many ways the coastal problems will be easier to deal with than those we have tackled inland and we have built up an unrivalled pool of knowledge and expertise over the years.

"People who visit Durham still thinking they will find it all to be smoking chimneys and pit spoil heaps cannot believe what they see. It has been a magnificent effort achieved by dedication and an enormous amount of hard work."

His favourite anecdote concerns the award-winning museum of north-eastern life at Beamish. When they decided to put a genuine pit spoil heap on display so that people would remember what they looked like, he says, they had to import one from outside the county. "I believe that within five years we will see all our coal related problems resolved," he says.



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BEECH nee SPOWAGE, JEAN BEECH nee SPOWAGE Widow late of 71 Beresford Road, Sawley, Long Eaton, Nottinghamshire died At Derby, on 20th March 1991 (Estate about £6,400)

BOOT, WILLIAM THOMAS BOOT late of 40 Pearson Road, Cleethorpes, South Humberside died At Grimsby on 22nd August 1991 (Estate about £30,000)

CARPENTER, DAVID CARPENTER late of St. Lawrence's Hospital, Coulsdon Road, Caterham, Surrey died There on 18th December 1990 (Estate about £7,000)

COOK, ARTHUR COOK late of 7 Devonshire Green, Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire died There on 6th January 1991 (Estate about £5,200)

FORD, FREDERICK CHARLES FORD late of 38 Westfield Avenue, Woking, Surrey died At Chertsey on 27th December 1990 (Estate about £9,000)

GALLAGHER nee PARKER, GWENDOLINE GALLAGHER otherwise ROSE GWENDOLINE GALLAGHER nee PARKER Widow late of 4 Lilian Board Way, Greenford, Middlesex died At Southall, Middlesex on 6th June 1991 (Estate about £12,000)

GIBSON, JOY BELL GIBSON, Spinster late of 51 Ophir Road, Bournemouth, Dorset died At Bournemouth on 24th October 1991 (Estate about £115,000)

KUR, ZYGMUNT KUR late of Abbey House, London Road, Coventry, Warwickshire died There on 30th April 1989 (Estate about £8,800)

LEE- BIRD otherwise BIRD, PHYLLIS LEE BIRD otherwise PHYLLIS MARY LEE-BIRD otherwise PHYLLIS MARY LEE BIRD Spinster late of Sherbourne House, Abbey Park, London Road, Coventry, West Midlands died At Coventry on 8th March 1991 (Estate about £60,000)

RAILTON, THORA RAILTON Spinster late of Flat D, 7-9 Darlaston Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 died At Carshalton, Surrey on 8th January 1990 (Estate about £10,200)

SADLER nee ELLIOTT, MAY ST. JULIEN SADLER nee ELLIOTT Single Woman late of 4 Gresham Road, Cambridge died At Cambridge on 25th November 1988 (Estate about £7,500)

SMALL nee PARKE, DOROTHY CLARA SMALL nee PARKE Widow late of 9 Lymway Court, 57 St. Marychurch Road, Torquay, Devon died At Paignton, Devon on 30th June 1991 (Estate about £110,000)

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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The husband and kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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Court of Appeal — **Law Report** January 29 1992 — Court of Appeal

US deal not a conviction

Regina v McGregor

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Jowitt

[Judgment January 24]

Failure to indicate to the trial judge a wish to cross-examine a co-defendant about previous convictions and character, under section 1(1)(f)(iii) of the Criminal Evidence Act 1898, and a flawed cross-examination based on a *nolo contendere* plea in the USA which led to a flawed summing up, rendered the jury's verdict unsafe and unsatisfactory and the conviction was quashed.

A successful appeal was brought by Beverly Elaine McGregor, aged 29, of Stoke Newington High Street, London, against conviction after a nine-day trial at Kingston upon Thames Crown Court (Judge Forrester and a jury) of possessing 0.22kg of cocaine hydrochloride with intent to supply, for which she was sentenced to five years imprisonment and a confiscation order was made for £19,000 under the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986.

The jury disagreed over her co-defendant at trial, Jacqueline Frances Davidson, who was ordered to be retried and was acquitted on the retrial.

Section 1 of the 1898 Act provides: "(1) ... (f) A person charged and called as a witness ... shall not be asked ... any question tending to show that he has committed or been convicted of or been charged with any offence other than that wherewith he is then charged, or is of bad character, unless ... (iii) he has given evidence against any other person charged in the same proceedings..."

Mr Adrian Fulford, who did not appear below, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Walton Hornsby for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the prosecution case was that the two women had been engaged in a transfer of the cocaine from Davidson to the appellant and in return she had handed a large sum of money to Davidson.

Both disputed that case. Each blamed the other and, in the end, it was what was what was popularly known as a cut-throat defence.

When the appellant was giving evidence she, of necessity, attacked the character of her co-defendant and brought herself within section 1(1)(f) of the 1898 Act.

All other things being equal, counsel for the co-defendant, Mr Michael Mansfield, QC, was in a position to cross-examine the appellant and, taking advantage of it, he started to ask her about her alleged previous convictions.

The matter of such questioning had worked anomaly from the House of Lords in *Murdoch v Taylor* ([1965] AC 574 and it was counsel's duty to indicate to the judge that he proposed to take advantage of section 1(1)(f). In *Murdoch* Lord Morris of Borth-y-Gest referred to a desire to put such questions and said (at pp585-586): "intimation of this desire should (in such a way as may be appropriate) be given to the court and counsel concerned. The temporary withdrawal of the jury might become desirable. It will then be for the judge to rule ... If he rules as a matter of law that the proposed questions may be put, then he is not called upon either to give or withhold any permission to put them."

In the ordinary run of cases, no doubt the permission sought from the judge would be put briefly. However, the instant case was very different.

Cross-examining counsel had a series of documents from a circuit court in Florida and it was plain that the appellant and one Beverley Tucker were both charged on April 8, 1987 with having cannabis in their actual or constructive possession.

The documents related to a plea of *nolo contendere* and one document was headed "Order withholding adjudication".

Their Lordships had had the benefit, which the trial court had not had, of three affidavits, from which it appeared that the plea of *nolo contendere*, that is, "I do not wish to contest the case", was used in criminal cases where the accused, although unwilling to confess guilt, did not wish to go to trial and desired the court immediately to pass sentence. If the court accepted such a plea it did not necessarily result in a conviction. It was a plea bargain approved by the court.

It was a great pity that Mr Mansfield did not draw to the judge's attention that he was about to cross-examine in the way that he did. It might well have been that he had not appreciated the intricacies of the procedures in USA and their Lordships were willingly prepared to accept the interpretation that he might have thought the appellant had in fact been convicted of the cannabis charge there.

If the trial judge had been alerted to the possibilities, if someone at trial had done more than hand the documents to the appellant, expert evidence might have been sought whether she was in a position legitimately to deny her guilt of that cannabis charge.

Stripped of all its embroidery, the *nolo contendere* plea meant no more than that the appellant said: "I did not commit the crime alleged against me but am anxious to be spared the trauma and expense of a trial; consequently I am prepared to allow you to proceed on the basis as though I were guilty and am prepared to pay $1,050 for the privilege." The prosecution said that that suited them, it would enable them to save time and money which otherwise they would have to spend on a trial, and the judge then gave the bargain his or her blessing.

In those circumstances the appellant would be justified in asserting that she had not been convicted of the cannabis offence, or so it seemed to their Lordships. Against that background their Lordships turned to the cross-examination.

The appellant had said that she was of good character and had no previous convictions anywhere. The documents being shown to the appellant, she was asked whether or not it was a conviction and she said that if that was what counsel said, she did not know.

His Lordship said that the basis of the cross-examination was flawed in the light of what their Lordships had already said, because no one had been given the opportunity or, if they had, had not taken the trouble to see what really was involved in the *nolo contendere* procedure.

The real vice arrived when the judge came to sum up on the vital question of the relative credibility of the appellant and her co-defendant, with only the information before him which had emerged in cross-examination without having seen any of the documents.

He said that the appellant was not a person of good character, although the jury might think she was attempting to lead them to believe that she was, because she had pleaded guilty to a drugs offence in Florida. He asked whether it was on her part a deliberate piece of perjury in front of them.

In a cut-throat defence that passage had to be absolutely fatal. After that direction, on the facts before the judge it was a perfectly proper direction at which no one could properly complain, the appellant's defence was hopeless and inevitably she was convicted.

The whole of the passage in the summing up was based on the material irregularity which took place when the judge's attention was not drawn to counsel's intention about cross-examination and he was putting questions to the witness based on an imperfect understanding of the documents he was putting forward.

The conviction was unsafe and unsatisfactory and the conviction had to be quashed. A retrial would not be ordered.

Solicitors: *CPS, Kingston upon Thames.*

Injunction move must go to High Court

Ocean Software Ltd v Kay and Others

Before Lord Justice Scott and Sir David Croom-Johnson

[Judgment January 22]

An application to discharge an *ex parte Mareva* injunction that had been granted by the Court of Appeal on an appeal from a Queen's Bench judge was not to be made to the Court of Appeal but to the High Court.

Lord Justice Scott, sitting in the Court of Appeal with Sir David Croom-Johnson, so stated when refusing to grant an application by the defendants, Mr Richard Kay, Mr Michael Webb and six companies controlled by them, to discharge a *Mareva* injunction imposed on them by the Court of Appeal on December 20, 1991 when allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Ocean Software Ltd, from the refusal earlier on the same day by a Queen's Bench Division judge to grant them their *ex parte* application.

Mr Charles K. Machin for the defendants; Mr B. Clive Freedman for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE SCOTT said that the plaintiffs had sought the injunction to protect the fruits of an action against the defendants for recovery of 50 per cent of the royalties received by them in respect of a Nintendo computer game, "Solstice".

Following the decision of the Court of Appeal on December 20 to grant the injunction, the defendants sought to have it varied or discharged. An application by them to that effect was before the Court of Appeal on December 30 when the terms of the injunction were varied, the application adjourned and the parties given liberty to apply.

The jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal was statutory: sections 15 and 16 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 set out its function.

Where the Court of Appeal had made an order granting an injunction, whether on an *ex parte* or *inter partes* application, it might well be necessary for one or other of the parties to go back to that court for a purpose of, or incidental to "the amendment, execution and enforcement" of that order: see section 15(3) of the 1981 Act.

But, on the other hand, an application which arose out of an order that the Court of Appeal had made but which was not strictly ancillary to the appellate function that the court was exercising in making the order and which could not be described as the "amendment, execution and enforcement" of the order ought not to be made to the Court of Appeal. In such a case the Court of Appeal would not have the jurisdiction to entertain the application.

A valuable analysis of the manner in which an *ex parte* order ought to be challenged was given by Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, in *WEA Records Ltd v Visions Channel 4 Ltd* ([1983] 1 WLR 721, 727).

The defendants' application was not suitable to be dealt with by the Court of Appeal but should be brought before a first instance tribunal. The application should be dismissed leaving the defendants free to renew their application in the Queen's Bench Division.

Sir David Croom-Johnson agreed.

Solicitors: Zatman & Co, Manchester; Berg & Co, Manchester.

Taxing costs between defendants

Seavision Investment SA v Evennett and Others

Before Lord Justice Parker, Lord Justice Scott and Sir Roger Ormrod

[Judgment January 21]

Where a plaintiff was entitled by way of damages to payment from the second defendant of its costs of suing the first defendant, those costs were to be taxed on the standard basis and not on the solicitor and own client basis nor on the indemnity basis.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Seavision Investment SA, from the order of Mr Justice Steyn on June 14, 1990 that the costs of the plaintiffs' claim against the first defendant, Norman Thomas Evennett, sued on his own behalf and on behalf of all other members in 1984 of Lloyd's Syndicates 658 and 728, payable by the second defendants, Clarkson Puckle Ltd, to the plaintiffs as damages, were to be taxed on the standard basis.

The plaintiffs were the owners of the vessel Tiburon which was struck by an Exocet missile on June 27, 1984 on a voyage from Kharg Island in the Gulf and became a constructive total loss.

The plaintiffs claimed under their war risks insurance cover and the judge held that the first defendant underwriter was not, but the second defendant brokers were, liable to the plaintiffs and made the order for costs.

Mr Christopher Clarke, QC and Mr David Goldstone for the plaintiff; Mr Adrian Hamilton, QC and Mr Dominic Kendrick for the second defendants.

LORD JUSTICE PARKER said that Sir Roger Ormrod, before his death, had agreed with this judgment.

The provisions of sections 51 and 18(1)(f) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 and Order 62, rules 2(4), 3 and 12 of the Rules of the Supreme Court appeared to his Lordship to be clear but it was sought to be argued that because the costs of the plaintiffs' failed claim against the underwriters were a recoverable head of damage against the brokers, such costs were not by law left to the discretion of the court and thus the prohibition in section 18(1)(f) had no application, and that, as damages, such costs had to be assessed on an indemnity basis.

If that submission were correct it would, in his Lordship's judgment, involve engrafting on to section 51(1) words of exception for costs which also formed a recoverable head of damage or making amendments to the rules to which section 51 was expressly subject. His Lordship could see no justification for so doing.

The costs of the failed claim against the underwriters were analagous to the costs of the successful claim against the brokers which had been incurred but which were not recoverable on taxation, as to which see *Berry v British Transport Commission* ([1962] 1 QB 306, 313).

At that time party and party costs permitted only the recovery of costs necessarily incurred and there was a wide margin between such costs and costs reasonably incurred. That difference had now been alleviated and enabled the successful party who was awarded costs on a standard basis to recover a reasonable amount in respect of all costs reasonably incurred.

The only difference between that and the indemnity basis was that on the standard basis the burden of proof was upon the receiving party whereas on the indemnity basis the burden was on the paying party.

The standard basis was moreover, in effect, the same as its predecessor, the common fund basis, which was intended to replace the old solicitor and client basis, and it was on that basis that the costs of a previously failed action against the underwriter would, according to the old cases, have been recovered in a subsequent action against the broker.

It was those changes which the judge referred to as the "new dispensation". Such dispensation, in his Lordship's view, destroyed any argument that justice required any gloss to be placed on the plain words of the statutory provisions and the rules.

His Lordship was of the opinion that the Act and the Rules of the Supreme Court meant what they said and that there was no warrant for making an exception in cases such as the present.

Lord Justice Scott delivered a concurring judgment.

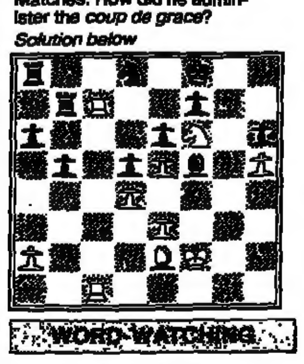
Solicitors: Ince & Co; Cameron Markby Hewitt.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Today's position is from the game Short — Seirawan, Manila 1990. This game was a vital win for Nigel Short on his way to qualifying for the World Championship Candidates Matches. How did he administer the coup de grace?

Solution below



WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 16

FOINERY

(c) Thrusting with the foil, fencing with the point, from the old prodding and sticking arts, from the Latin *fuscina* a three-pronged fish spear.

MERKIN

(a) False pubic hair, a curiously otiose piece of cosmetics or make-up popular in the 18th century, apparently a variant of *malkin* an untidy female of the lower classes.

JEZIAH

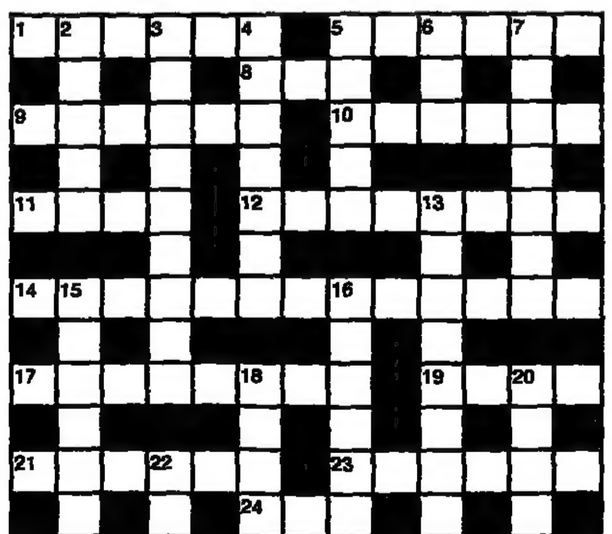
(b) The poll tax imposed by Islamic law on non-Muslim subjects, specifically that exacted by the Mogul emperors of India, from the Persian *jizyah* poll tax.

BISMER

(c) Shame, disgrace, reproach, mockery, scorn, from the OE *bismer* ridicule.

Solution: 1 Rg1! Rxg2 2 Rg8+ Kf7 3 Rg8 mate (printed upside down)

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2700



ACROSS
1 German Requiem composer (6)
5 Straight downhill skiing (6)
8 Stomach (3)
9 21 shillings (6)
10 Defensive plates (6)
11 Inactive (4)
12 Sneak (4,4)
14 French battle medal (5,2,6)
17 Poultry breast "v" (8)
19 QC (4)
21 Get (6)
23 Exposure to debate (6)
24 Bounder (3)
25 Turn aside swiftly (6)
26 Wage getter (6)

DOWN
2 Drinks order (5)
3 Mathis de Maler composer (9)
4 Began (7)
5 Tiny (5)
6 Buzz (3)
7 Filth (7)
13 Money official (9)
15 Sky spectrum (7)
16 Hand bomb (7)
18 Small measure (5)
20 Spear (5)
22 Atmosphere (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 2699

ACROSS: 1 Repose 4 Chintz 9 Lucerne 10 Dam up 11 Drug 12 Cockney 14 William Tell 18 Centred 19 Ming 22 Rebel 24 Servile 25 Emerge 26 Sneeze

DOWN: 1 Role 2 Pacer 3 Straggler 5 Hod 6 Nominal 7 Zephyr 8 Merchandise 11 Dew 13 Catamaran 15 Ignoble 16 Leg 17 Accrue 20 Noise 21 Fete 23 Lag

هكذا من الأصل

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax (87271) **6.30 BBC Breakfast News** (60889813)
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion (4269726)
9.50 Hot Chefs. Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray prepare chicken with rosemary and mascarpone (2024875)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (3410879) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (3925691) **10.25 Stoppit and Tidyup.** Cartoon (r) (2100676) **10.35 No Kidding.** Mike Smith hosts the family quiz show (s) (1787894)
11.00 News, regional news and weather **11.05 Holiday.** The travel programme explores eastern Europe and the Scottish Highlands (r). (Ceefax) (s) (7317875) **11.30 People Today** with Miriam Stoppard and Adrian Mills (8879233), including at **12.00 News**, regional news and weather **12.20 Pebble Mill** (s) (6729815) **12.55 Regional news** and weather (72300455)
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather (17349)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (28221946)
1.50 Going for Gold. Henry Kelly hosts the European general knowledge quiz (24621982)
2.15 Hawaii Five-O: The Face of the Dragon. A plague carrier arrives on the island and top secret military plans disappear (1754691)
3.05 Help Your Child with Science: Forces. Jeni Barnett shows parents how to let their children get the most out of life (1187287)
3.15 Primetime. David Jacobs and Sheila McClennon are joined by the Andy Prior Big Band (s) (1631523)
3.50 Children's BBC: Bananaman. Cartoon (r) (4331707) **3.55 Caterpillar Trail.** Nicola Davies goes island-hopping southwest of Land's End (r) (6276558) **4.10 Fiddley Foodle Bird.** Cartoon (s) (1395504) **4.20 Mr Nobody's Eyes.** Joss Ackland reads the third of a five-part story for *Jackanory* (9396610) **4.35 Bucky O'Hare.** Cartoon (9705707) **5.00 Newsround** (1331558) **5.10 Archer's Goon.** *Fourth of a six-part children's drama.* (Ceefax) (s) (7318320)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (725900). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (233)
6.30 Regional news magazines (813). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)
7.00 Wogan. Terry is joined by the American singer-songwriter Tori Amos who performs her latest single, "China" (s) (8252)

Back to the future: the *Tomorrow's World* team (7.30pm)

7.30 Tomorrow's World. The science magazine programme reports from Gothenburg in Sweden on a new scheme to determine the *source of air pollution around airports.* (Ceefax) (s) (487)
8.00 Only Fools and Horses: Chain Gang. Comedy with the south London wheeler dealers. Del (David Jason) sets up a deal to *purchase 250 gold chains (r).* (Ceefax) (s) (350875)
8.55 Party Political Broadcast by the Labour party (463542)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (6829)
9.30 Churchill: Beginning of the End
● CHOICE: Part three of Martin Gilbert's documentary covers the years 1943 to 1945 and is the most entertaining so far. This is because it frequently leaves the narrative of wartime events for personal insights. We hear how Churchill composed his speeches, more sweat and toil than sudden inspiration. We hear about his eccentric working hours and huge intake of alcohol. *We hear how* he exasperated his generals with wild schemes, such as scrapping D-Day and liberating France through Portugal. Credit is *given to the unsung Clement Attlee who looked after the shop* while Churchill was abroad and got through business in a fraction of the time. There is even a clip of Bob Hope making Churchill jokes. On the world stage Churchill's influence was beginning to wane and with it Britain's credibility as a great power. By 1945 only the United States and the Soviet Union really counted. (Ceefax) (24455)
10.30 Film: Author! Author! (1982). Al Pacino stars in a hit-and-miss semi-autobiographical comedy by Israel Horovitz about a Broadway playwright, whose suspicions about his wife's infidelity lead him to have an affair with his leading lady. With Dyan Cannon and Tuesday Weld. Directed by Arthur Hiller (81813436). Wales: Film '92 with Barry Norman (15320); 11.00-12.45am Film: Author! Author! (943441)
12.15am Weather (6626566) **12.20 Close** (855295)
2.00 The Way Ahead (r) (8619189). Ends at **2.15**

BBC 2

8.00 Breakfast News (1988252) **8.15 Westminster** (5602981)
9.00 Daytime on Two: Short Circuit (s) (7725558) **9.10** Words into Action (7354610) **9.30** *Diez Temas* (6485523) **9.45** *You and Me* (6480078) **10.00** Thinkabout Science (5273833) **10.15** Search Out Science (3929417) **10.35** Q & A (r) (9979417) **10.40** Around Scotland (8914829). Northern Ireland: *Ulster in Focus* **11.00** Words and Pictures (4104981) **11.15** English Time (4604788) **11.35** Teaching Today (9817368) **12.05** TV6 (6849962) **12.30** Lifeschool (6205417) **12.55** España Viva (r) (8019078) **1.20** *Pigeon Street* (r) (61956417) **1.35** Crystal Tipps and Alistair (r) (21589417) **1.40** Zig Zag (r) (40821720)
2.00 News and weather (18036252) followed by **You and Me: Dumpers and Diggers** (70558146) (r)
2.15 Bitten by the Bug: From the Frying Pan into the Freezer. How insects control their body temperature (70561610)
2.30 Reviving Antiques. How to clean tin and brass (2173851)
2.35 Country File. John Craven with rural issues (r) (3202702)
3.00 News and weather (4352523) followed by **Westminster Live** (6158900) **3.50 News**, regional news and weather (8972165)
4.00 Catchword. Paul Coia hosts the word game (s) (726)
4.30 Town Portraits. *Richmond in Yorkshire (r)* (2971879)
4.40 Behind the Headlines. Linda Agran deals with emotional issues (5192271)
5.10 Horizon: *In Search of the Noble Savage* (r). (Ceefax) (s) (7844146)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Whoopi Goldberg makes a *guest appearance in the space adventure series.* (Ceefax) (249829)

The amazing powers of the brain investigated: *Def II* (6.50pm)

6.50 Def II: Reportage — Brain Power. Aminatta Forna looks at the powers of the mind and the secret of the sixth sense (746097)
7.30 Def II: Rapido. Antoine de Caunes listens to gospel music and talks to Andrew Strong, singing star of *The Commitments* (639)
8.00 *The Day the World Changed*
● CHOICE: Maintaining the bold visual style of the series, Terry Braun's film features a contribution by Ngugi wa Thiong'o, the *exiled Kenyan writer. His chosen date from world history is* August 16, 1631. The background is the colonisation of his country by the Portuguese. At the end of the 16th century the Portuguese built a fort at Mombassa and imposed their rule. Early in the next century King Hasan of Mombassa strated to show resistance and was killed. His seven-year-old son, Yusuf, was deported to another Portuguese possession, Goa. The authorities tried to take away his African culture and turn him into a Portuguese, eventually returning him to Mombassa as a puppet king. The puppet turned out to be made of flesh and blood and rose heroically against his oppressors. It is a stirring tale, dramatically told (247165)
8.10 Timewatch: Kwai
● CHOICE: Anticipating the fiftieth anniversary of the fall of *Singapore to the Japanese (St Valentine's Day, 1942), Kwai* attempts to reveal the true story of the Burma-Siam "death railway". The fictional version was made by David Lean as *The Bridge on the River Kwai.* Had the film been anything like as sombre as the reality, cinemas would have stayed empty. The privations of the British and Australian prisoners of war forced to build the line are well known but lose nothing by repetition. As one of the Japanese soldiers puts it: "The workforce was not regarded as being made up of human beings. It was simply a machine, a way of getting the work done in time." Amid the brutality, hunger and disease, 26,000 Allied prisoners died. The film also pays tribute to the many thousands of Asian coolies who were treated even worse. The testimony of survivors is underscored with stark black-and-white footage (266097)
9.00 Film: Rebel (1985). Musical romance starring Matt Dillon as an American deserter in Sydney during the second world war who *befriends a nightclub singer. With Debbie Byrne and Bryan Brown.* Directed by Michael Jenkins (s) (5900)
10.30 Party Political Broadcast by the Labour party (721691)
10.35 *Newsnight with Peter Snow* (893455)
11.20 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (757349)
12.00 Behind the Headlines (r) (89856) **12.30am Weather** (3511498)

ITV

6.00 TV-am (6174726)
9.25 Keynotes. Musical quiz (8934320) **9.55 Thames News** (6516146)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion (5653610)
10.40 This Morning (3747165), including at **10.55 ITN News** headlines, and at **11.55 Thames News**
12.10 Allsorts. *A look at holidays* (s) (9132962)
12.30 ITN News with John Suchet. Weather (5707078) **1.10 Thames News** (39344078)
1.20 Home and Away. Australian drama series. (Oracle) (61772691)
1.50 A Country Practice (s) (60749165)
2.20 Graham Kerr. Mini-max seed bread with reduced fat and cholesterol (45989897)
2.50 Take the High Road (8357851) **3.15 ITN News** headlines (4362900) **3.20 Thames News** (4369813)
3.25 *The Young Doctors* (6628252)
3.55 Children's ITV: The Dreamstone. Cartoon (s) (9498417) **4.20 Owl TV. Finders Keepers.** Video game show (4346639) **4.50** *Michaela Strachan presents the children's* wildlife and environmental programme (4688829)
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge quiz for teenagers (6244726)
5.40 ITN News with Fiona Armstrong. (Oracle) Weather (285879)
5.55 Thames Help with Jackie Spreckley (r) (837982)
6.00 Home and Away *(r).* (Oracle) (829)
6.30 Thames News. (Oracle) (981)

The man to whom life is an open book: Michael Aspel (7.00pm)

7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel opens his red book to reveal the name of another unsuspecting celebrity (s) (3320)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle) (165)
8.00 The Match: Liverpool v Arsenal. Elton Welsby introduces live Barclays League football action from Anfield. The commentators are Brian Moore and Kevin Keegan (s) (5252)
10.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Labour party (901287)
10.05 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald and Julia Somerville. (Oracle) Weather (769523) **10.35 Thames News** (464894)
10.45 Film: Fright Night (1985). Special effects-laden horror film starring William Ragsdale as a teenager who is convinced that his new neighbour (Chris Sarandon) is a vampire. In desperation, he enlists the help of a television horror show host (Roddy McDowall). Directed by Tom Holland (970504)
12.45am Film: Image of Death (1977). Australian-made thriller about an amoral girl (Cathy Paine), whose uncanny resemblance to a wealthy former schoolfriend, leads tomurder. Directed by Kevin Dobson (947108)
2.15 *America's Top Ten* *(s)* (8082160)
2.40 Videofashion (5814295)
3.10 Quiz Night. Ted Robbins hosts the pub and club quiz (86820856)
3.40 Stephen King's This Is Horror. The world of special effects (r) (52788540)
4.10 Along the Cotswold Way: Hawkesbury Upton to Wotton-under-Edge. Clive Gunnell climbs the 144 steps of the Somerset Monument (r) (75513978)
4.40 Fifty Years On (b/w). Archive newsreel from January 1942 (36997108)
5.00 Witness to Survival. True stories about people struggling to survive against the odds (46214)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Neilson (77011). Ends at **6.00**

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CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel 4 Daily (6172388)
9.25 Schools (53883374)
12.00 The Parliament Programme (21981)
12.30 Business Daily (40504)
1.00 Sesame Street. Early learning series (41287)
2.00 Film: All That Money Can Buy (1941, b/w). Fantasy drama starring James Craig as an impoverished farmer who sells his soul to the devil (Walter Huston), and is defended at his "trial" by lawyer Edward Arnold. Directed by William Dieterle (201897)
3.35 Elizabethan Express *(b/w).* The excitement of a steam railway journey from London to Edinburgh (r) (5005287)
4.00 The Survival Factor: The Headbangers: Toyah Willcox looks at the great spotted woodpecker *(r).* (Teletext) (894)
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley and Carol Vorderman host the word game. With Philip Frank in the dictionary corner (s) (336)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Pen Pal Marriage. Oprah invites pen pals to meet each other in the flesh (1561962)
5.55 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon adventures (r) (835504)
6.00 Kate and Allie: The Band Singer. American comedy series about two divorcees. Daughter Jennie auditions for a rock band (271)
6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. Conversation and entertainment (s) (523)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (996165)
7.50 Party Political Comment by a Liberal Democrat (105455)
8.00 Brookside. *Merseyside soap. (Teletext) (s)* (5310)
8.30 Travelog. Pete McCarthy visits Vermont in the Fall, and discovers what makes Boston unique (s) (6417)
9.00 Dispatches. *Christopher Hird reports on the business dealings of* Hanson Trust, Britain's fifth largest company, whose financial success in the 1980s *may not be repeated in the recession-hit 1990s* (123639)

The battle of the corner store: Naveen Andrews (9.45pm)

9.45 He-Play: The Frontier. Continuing the series of short plays by writers new to television. In Simon Beaufoy's drama the livelihood of an Asian corner shopkeeper in Yorkshire is threatened by a supermarket. With Naveen Andrews (s) (590320)
10.00 The Golden Girls: Witness. Award-winning American comedy series about four mature women who share a house in Miami. Rose's boyfriend is on the run from the Mafia. With Betty White. (Teletext) (s) (22810)
10.30 The Secret Cabaret with Simon Drake, who presents a cocktail of magic, illusion and fantasy (s) (11558)
11.05 Drop the Dead Donkey. Topical newsroom comedy-drama series. Gus (Robert Duncan) tries to make his brother grovel (r) (s) (1184)
11.30 The 291 Club. DJ Elayne and Miles Crawford introduce new acts to an abrasive audience at London's Hackney Empire (r) (44926)
12.30am Tonight with Jonathan Ross (r) (s) (1712276)
12.55 Dick Spanner. Gerry Anderson's puppet series about a laid-back private eye (3518301). Ends at **1.05**

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Gardening Time (45989897) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (321542)

BORDER
As London except: 2.20pm-3.55 Scottish Parliamentary Question Time (7353436) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6244726) 6.00 Lookaround Wednesday (829) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (981) 12.45am Loose Cannon (4174586) 1.40 Donahue (6125189) 2.35 CinemAttractions (4444818) 3.00 Film: Yesterday's Tomorrow (62547) 5.00 Short Story Theatre (2955295) 5.15-5.30 Jobfinder (2943450)

CENTRAL
As London except: 2.20pm In the Northern Wilds (45989897) 2.50-3.15 The Young Doctors (8357851) 3.25-3.55 Take the High Road (6628252) 6.25-7.00 Central News (321542) 12.45am Night Heat (431176) 2.40 Film: Grip of the Strangler (2253618) 4.10 Stage One (3789586) 5.00-5.30 Central Jobfinder '92 (46214)

GRANADA
As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Coming of Age (45989897) 6.30-7.0 Granada Tonight (981) 12.45am Loose Cannon (4174586) 1.40 Donahue (6125189) 2.35 CinemAttractions (4444818) 3.00 Film: Yesterday's Tomorrow (62547) 5.00 Short Story Theatre (2955295) *5.15-5.30 Jobfinder* (2943450)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors (60749165) 3.25-3.55 A Country Practice (6628252) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6244726) 6.00 HTV West (829) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (981)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at Six

TSW
As London except: 2.50pm-3.15 The Young Doctors (45989897) 3.25-3.55 Home and Away (8629981) 5.10-5.40 Take the High Road (6244726) 6.00 TSW Today (829) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (981) 12.45am Loose Cannon (4174586) 1.40 Donahue (6125189) 2.35 CinemAttractions (4444818) 3.00 Film: Yesterday's Tomorrow (62547) 5.00 Short Story Theatre (2955295) 5.15 to 5.30 Jobfinder (2943450)

TVS
As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors (60749165) 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters (6628252) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6244726) 6.00 Coast to Coast (829) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (981)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.50pm Northern Life Review (60749165) 2.20-2.50 Believing People (45989897) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away *(791078) 6.00 Northern Life (829)* 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (981) 12.45am Loose Cannon (4174586) 1.40 Donahue (6125189) 2.35 CinemAttractions (4444818) *3.00 Film:* Yesterday's Tomorrow (62547) 5.00 Short Story Theatre (2964943) 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder (6275653)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.50pm Sons and Daughters (60749165) 2.20-2.50 Ronan on the Road (45989897) 3.25-3.55 Who's the Boss? (6628252) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6244726) 6.00 Six Tonight (290417) 6.20 Police Six (466523) *6.30-7.00 Highdays and Otherdays* (981) 12.45am Loose Cannon (4174586) 1.40 Donahue (6125189) 2.35 CinemAttractions (4444818) 3.00 Film: Yesterday's *Tomorrow* (62547) *5.00 Short Story* Theatre (2955295) 5.15-5.30 Jobfinder (2943450)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (6244726) 6.00 Calendar (829) 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters (981) 12.45am Film. Warp Speed (901108) 2.35 American Gladiators (2040276) 3.20 Quiz Night (66835127) 3.45 Music Box (156634) 4.45-5.30 Jobfinder (8875498)

S4C
Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily (6172388) 9.25 Yagolion (53883374) 12.00 The Parliament Programme (21981) 12.30pm Newyddion (65853981) 12.40 Slot Meithrin (8025636) 1.00 Countdown (94967) 1.30 Business Daily (49875) 2.00 Class Action (7146) 2.30 Film: Young Mr Lincoln (Henry Fonda) (29220558) 4.15 Matador Magoo (1310813) 4.25 Slot 23 (5359707) 5.00 Gamesmaster (1726) 5.30 Brookside (558) 6.00 Newyddion (663829) 6.10 Heno (150981) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (1962) 7.30 Mentrol Mentrol (707) 8.00 Ar Y Tir (5310) 8.30 Newyddion (690233) 8.55 Trosen (880726) 9.45 Now You're Talking (152184) 10.10 The Golden Girls (768436) 10.40 Film: Out on the Edge (81820726) 12.25am Tonight with Jonathan Ross (4599818) 12.55 Diwedd

RTE 1
Starts: 12.30pm Check Up (3264320) 1.00 News (1484639) 1.30 Aertel Financial Pages (84589798) 1.40 Camera — Moving Pictures (89241981) 2.05 The Cedar Tree (5650788) 3.00 Live at Three (2401523) 4.00 News (58833726); The Budget (37117078) 6.00 The Angelus (9086726) 6.01 Six-One (3209839) 7.00 No 1 (4619523) 7.30 Who's the Boss? (3741894) 8.00 Look Here (4628271) 8.30 Radharc in Retrospect (4614078) 9.00 News (2419542) 9.30 Today Tonight (5847368) 10.15 Bibi (3082542) 11.15 Midnight Caller (6965388) 12.05am News (2935924) 12.15 Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (23500417) 8.40 Mrs Pepperpot (6392813) 8.55 Playabout (3435455) 9.10 Cartoons (9292320) 9.30 What A Country (93610) 10.00 Maude (26981) 10.30 The Young Doctors (61523) 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (41679) 11.30 The Young and the Restless (63365) 12.30pm Barnaby Jones (14455) 1.30 *Another World* (2008981) 2.20 Santa Barbara (80190184) 2.45 Wife of the Week (136388) 3.15 The Brady Bunch (128981) 3.45 The DJ Kat Show (7098707) 5.00 *Diff'rent Strokes* (5320) *5.30 Bewitched* (9875) 6.00 Facts of Life (6788) 6.30 Candid Camera (1928) 7.00 Love at First Sight (5184) 7.30 Totally Hidden Video (9252) 8.00 *Battlestar Galactica* (40542) *9.00* Wiseguy (37078) 10.00 Love at First Sight (53504) 10.30 Night Court (82252) 11.00 Sonny Spoon (67368) 12.00 Against the Wind *(75740)*

SKY NEWS
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. *News on the hour.*
6.00am News (4088785) 9.30 Nightline (20504) 10.30 Fashion TV (69165) 11.00 Dayline (98691) 11.30 Newsline (54810) *12.30pm Good Morning America* (12097) 1.30 Good Morning America (13726) 2.30 Parliament Live (3249388) 3.15 Parliament Live (5493813) 4.30 Fashion TV (6165) 5.00 *Live at Five* (72436) *6.30* Newsline (46891) 8.30 Fashion TV (76320) 10.30 Newsline (51558) 11.30 ABC News (40900) 12.30am Newsline (70856) 1.30 ABC News (34363) *2.30 Beyond 2000* (34924) 3.30 ABC News (46769) 4.30 Beyond 2000 (64092) 5.30 Newsline (20127)

SKY MOVIES+
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Showcase (5547310)
10.00 A Summer Place (1959): Romance *and adultery in Maine* (78638707)
12.15 Police Academy 6 (1989): Cop capers (813320)
2.00 Cold River (1982): Danger for teenagers *in the wilderness* (21417)
4.00 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes's Smarter Brother (1975): Gene Wilder in Conan Doyle spoof (65334287)
5.40 Entertainment Tonight (342726)
6.00 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989): Two teenagers are transported back through time (34981)
8.00 Next of Kin (1989): Patrick Swayze as a country boy come to the bad city (46726)
10.00 Pick a Flick: To chose which film you would like to see, ring 0898 500127. How I Got Into College (1989): Kooky comedy (71900); Look Who's Talking Kirstie Alley in baby comedy (71900); 10.00 The Outside Woman (1987): Sharon Gless joins the criminal classes with Scott Glenn (71900); Not Just Another Affair (1982): Victoria Principal looks for love (733731)
11.40 Out of Control (1985): A group of teenagers are marooned (186155)
1.30am Desperate for Love (1989): A girl gets in the way of a teenage friendship (96047188)
3.50 Chicago Joe And The Showgirl (1989): Wartime romantic thriller (671353). To 5.30

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.15am 8½ (1963): Marcello Mastroianni in Fellini classic (38221810)
8.40 Scooby Doo Meets the Boo Brothers: Doggie animation (58869891)
10.20 Come Back, Little Sheba (1952): Burt Lancaster in domestic drama (80968233)
12.15pm Istanbul (1957): Errol Flynn as a diamond hunter (365523)
2.15 First Men in the Moon (1964): Adaptation of H.G. Wells's story of a clever *Victorian inventor* (458287)
4.15 Platypus Cove: Fishing community tale (20051726)
5.50 Spotlight (342691)
8.15 *The Tall T* (1957): Western (251981)
8.15 Mission Impossible: The Golden Serpent (1989): The team must fight a band of drug-smugglers (12360417)
10.05 The Prophecies (1989): Satanic horror tale (242784)
11.45 MacKenna's Gold (1969): Gregory Peck, Telly Savalas and Omar Sharif in Western adventure (90371504)
1.56am White Water Summer (1987): Brat packers turn back packers (459655)
3.30 King of the Gypsies (1978): War between New York's gypsies (435127). To 5.20.

THE COMEDY CHANNEL
● Via the Astra satellite.
4.00pm Mr Ed (1271) 4.30 Petticoat Junction (7455) 5.00 The New Leave It to Beaver (3813) 5.30 Greenacres (8707) 6.00 Here's Lucy (8320) 6.30 F Troop (2900) 7.00 McHale's Navy (4879) 7.30 The Addams Family (8184) 8.00 'Til Death us do Part (9097) 8.30 Doctor, Doctor (8504) 9.00 Hogan's Heroes (78417) 9.30 Here's Lucy (70894) 10.00 Guys 'N' Dolls (49436) 10.30 The Addams Family (58184)

SKY SPORTS
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.30am Aerobics (68523) 7.00 FA Cup Special (94436) 9.00 Aerobics (36951) 9.30 *Netbusters* (30252) *10.00 American Sports* Cavalcade (10441) 11.00 Iron Man (88707) 12.00 Aerobics (99417) 12.30pm FA Cup Special (77829) 2.30 The Footballer's Football Show (52320) 3.30 Kick (66320) 4.30 World Of Adventure (16542) 5.30 The Road to Albertville (6707) 6.00 Rock Sport (6320) 6.30 Netbusters (809829) 6.55 Ford Snow Report (930894) 7.00 The America's Cup (71436) 8.00 Sky Soccer Classic (94900) 10.00 Superbowl XXVI (952726) 1.00am The America's Cup (94160) 2.00 Kick (14450)

EUROSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
8.00am Skating (82417) 9.30 Basketball (67252) 11.00 Fencing (58639) 11.30 Kick Boxing (69287) 1.00pm Football — Eurogoals (24691) 2.00 Road to Albertville (3968) 2.30 Athletics (54788) 3.30 Skating (65436) 5.00 Wrestling (6455) 6.00 Euro Fun Magazine (8788) 6.30 Athletics (93523) 8.30 Eurosport News (2639) 9.00 Skating (37504) 10.30 Road to Albertville (98146) 11.00 Cycling (31320) 11.30 News (73455)

SCREENSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Eurobics (96894) 7.30 Longitude (66829) 8.00 Spanish Football (10900) 8.30 Go — International Motorsport (13455) 9.30 Eurobics (36894) 10.00 Basketball (70423) 11.00 World Soccer Classics (87894) 1.00 NHL Action (37165) 2.00 Eurobics (9542) 2.30 International Volleyball (50962) 3.30 Top Rank Boxing (61610) 5.00 African Nations Cup (2639) 6.00 Frankfurt International Horse Show (20629) 7.00 Australian Open Golf (79078) 8.00 Warsteiner Ski Special (6078) 8.30 US Men's Pro Ski Tour 1991/2 (8813) 9.00 Luge (40078) 10.30 NHL Ice Hockey (42455) 12.30 Winter Sportscast — Olympics '92 (14092)

LIFESTYLE
● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am The Great American Gameshows (8234691) 10.50 Coffee Break (8250349) 10.55 Sell-A-Vision (2965320) 11.25 Fashion File (1159287) 12.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (4059233) 12.50pm What's New (46155436) 12.55 Search For Tomorrow (9518287) 1.20 Afternoon Cinema (29102336) 3.25 Sell-A-Vision (1576981) 3.50 Tea Break (8323417) *4.00 Dick Van Dyke Show* (2981) 4.30 The Great American Gameshows (8570388) 5.25 The Tony Randall Show (2973610) 6.00 Sell-A-Vision Shopping (868948) 9.00 Jukebox *Music Videos* (8638542)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather; News
7.00 Morning Concert: Telemann (Quartet in G, Tafelmusik Part 1), Strauss (Blick vom oberen *Belvedere, Op 88 No 2,* Malven); J Strauss (son) (Annen-Polka) **7.30** News
7.35 Morning Concert Cont: Gershwin (The George Gershwin Songbook, excerpts); Copland (Danzón Cubano); Gottschalk (Souvenir de la Havane). Dvorák (Czech Suite) **8.30** News
8.35 Composers of the Week. Holst (Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda, Group 3), Japanese Suite; Savitri)
9.35 Midweek Choice: D Scarlatti (Sonata in C, Kk 502); Haydn (Piano Sonata in E minor, HXVI 34); Sibelius (Andante festivo), Scarlatti (Sonata in D minor, *Kk 517); Stravinsky (The* Rake's Progress, Act II Sc 3); Scarlatti (Sonata in D, Kk 478); Paganini (Violin Concerto No 3 in E), Scarlatti (Sonata in F minor, Kk 513), Massenet, arr Lucas (Ballet, Manon, Act 2, *excerpts);* D Scarlatti *(Sonata* in B flat, Kk 545)
11.30 BBC Concert Orchestra under Charles Groves, with Patricia Calnan, violin: Verdi (Overture, La forza del destino), Chausson (Poeme, Op 25); *Fauré (Suite, Masques et* bergamasques), Frank Bridge (Tone poem, Summer); Stanford (Symphony No 7 in D minor) (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Concert Hall: Benjamin Frith, *piano,* plays Beethoven (33 Variations on a Waltz by Diabelli, Op 120), live from Broadcasting House, London
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.10 Vintage Years.
● CHOICE: Whatever the time of day, audiences for chamber music on radio are generally modest. But it is safe to predict that the ranks of the *faithful will be swollen* this afternoon by those who listen to chamber music, (a) when they can put pictures to it and, (b) when they can whistle to it. As today's *Vintage Years* is the "Trout" Quintet, the "whistle-along-*with-Schubert*" brigade will be specially catered for, though *siffleurs* will have to wait patiently for *the fourth* movement. The recording features Rudolf Serkin (piano), Jaime Laredo, Philip Naegele and Julius Levine
4.00 *Choral Evensong: live from* King's College, Cambridge
5.00 Debu Chaudhuri, sitar, performs *Raga Paldeep* with Prateek Chaudhuri, second sitar; Manjusree Chaudhuri, tambura; and Anshis Sengupta, tabla (r)
5.30 Mainly for Pleasure: with Valentine Cunningham
7.00 News
7.05 Third Ear: Michael Billington examines cultural life in Madrid
7.30 BBC Scottish SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk *plays* Sibelius *(En Saga)*; Xenakis (Shaar); Stravinsky (Petruschka)
8.45-9.25 What's the Big Idea? (**FM** only from **9.25**): Brian Magee discusses the forging of the human mind with Professors Richard Dawkins, David Hubel and Isaac Marks (9 of 12)
9.25-5.00am Test Match Special (**MW** only): *New Zealand v England. The first day of play* in the second Test from Auckland
9.30 French Song (**FM** only): Laurence Dale, tenor, and Malcolm Martineau, piano, perform Debussy (Cinq *poèmes de Baudelaire*); Poulenc (Montparnasse; Rosemonde, Bleuet; La Tragique Histoire du Petit René, Parisiana: Cocardes) (4 of 5)
10.25 Music in Our Time (**FM** only): *Justin Connolly on the 1991* World Music Days in Zurich. Gerald Brophy (Shiver: IGNM Ensemble, Basel under Jurg Henneberger, with Linda Maria Akerlund, mezzo); Harry Suilamo (Noun, Christoph *Jaggin, guitar); Shinwoo Lee* (Space: Philippe Racine, flute; Ernesto Molinari, clarinet, Danielle Cholette, piano); Younghi Pagh-Paan (AA-GA 1, Tobias Moster, cello); François Ali-Sade (String Quartet *Minguet Quartet) (2 of 2)*
11.30 News (**FM** only)
11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week (**FM** only): Berlioz (La Captive; Chanson de Brigands, Lelio; Harold in Italy) (r)
1.00 Night School (**FM** only) (Not Scotland)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News briefing, incl **6.30** Weather **6.10** Farming Today *6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30* Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport **8.40** *Yesterday in Parliament*
8.58 Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Midweek, with Terry Jones of *Monty Python*; journalist John Diamond; and Gordon Haycock, an undertaker
10.00-10.30 Wilko's Weekly (**FM** only): Tony Wilkinson visits the newspapers of Londonderry (4 of 6) (s)
10.00 *News; Daily Service (LW only)*
10.15 The Bible (LW only): David Suchet reads from the Psalms (7 of 8)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Includes features on multiple births and Chinese cookery; interviews with Shirley MacLaine and the women advising President Mitterand, incl **11.00** News
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time *Clay Jones and experts visit* Colsterworth in Lincolnshire (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Appointment with Venus: Adaptation of Jerrard Tickell's novel set in the Nazi-occupied Channel Islands (4 of 4) (s) (r)
12.55 *Weather*
1.00 The World at One
1.35 Party Political Broadcast by the Labour Party
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News, The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes: The Gloria Scott.
● CHOICE: No wonder Holmes (in *The Sussex Vampire*) belittled Watson's biographical efforts (in *The Gloria Scott*) to make something Holmesian out of today's bloodthirsty tale of dirty work on the high seas. The truth is that in no other story does Holmes do so little. That said, *Gloria Scott* is important to Holmes students because it records the very *first occasion that the sleuth* demonstrated his deductive powers, albeit non-professionally, and also offers a glimpse or two of his early days at Cambridge (4 of 6)
2.47 An Englishman in the Midi: In the first of six programmes, John P. Harris talks about living in a village in the south of France (r)
3.00 *News; File on 4: Reports on* major issues in the news (r)
3.42 The Parts: With Carol Vorderman
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope: Includes an interview with the French director, Maroun Bagdadi and the author William Bedford; reviews of Tony Carter's exhibition at the Imperial War Museum and the weeks' *films*; and Orphia Robinson and Joe Beshorun play jazz (s)
4.45 Short Story: Yellow Moepels, *by Herman Charles Bosman.* A Boer consults a witchdoctor about the future (r)
5.00 PM **5.50** Shipping
5.55 Weather
6.00 News
6.30 Counterpoint: Musical quiz with Ned Sherrin (s) (r)
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers
7.20 Face the Facts (**FM** only): John Waites investigates
7.45 Voices in the Cold Wind: Myths and legends from the Arctic Circle (4 of 6)
7.20-8.00 Woman's Hour (LW only) (r)
8.00 Medicine Now (r)
8.30 Batty Down Under: Australians talk about their rather mixed feelings towards bats
9.00 Protestors for Paradise: An Alternative to Tobacco. Brian Redhead examines the career of John Bunyan (5 of 10) (s)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (s) (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The South, by Colm Toibin. Read by Maureen O'Brien (6 of 8)
11.00 Murder Most Foul: The Perfect Murder? Elizabeth Barlow was found drowned in her bath in May 1957. She showed signs of having been drugged but no trace of any substance could be found. Had someone *committed the prefect* murder? (3 of 6) (s) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** World Service (LW only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m,1089kHz/275m,FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m, FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m,FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; *FM 97.3.* Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8 GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9: World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Gary King (FM only) 6.00 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies Says: Let's Do Lunch 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News 92 6.00 Neale James 7.30 *Neale James' Evening Session 9.00 The Man Ezeke Sunshine Show Reggae 10.00 Nicky* Campbell Goes into the Night 12.00-4.00am Bob Harris (FM only): Featuring Mary Black and Wright Brothers in session

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. *4.00am* Steve Madden 6.30 Brian Hayes 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 You Can't Have One Without the Other 7.30 Edmundo Ros 8.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 *9.00 Nigel Ogden 9.30 Cosmotheka's Comedy Songbook 10.00* Steve Ross and Friends 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Bill Rennells with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

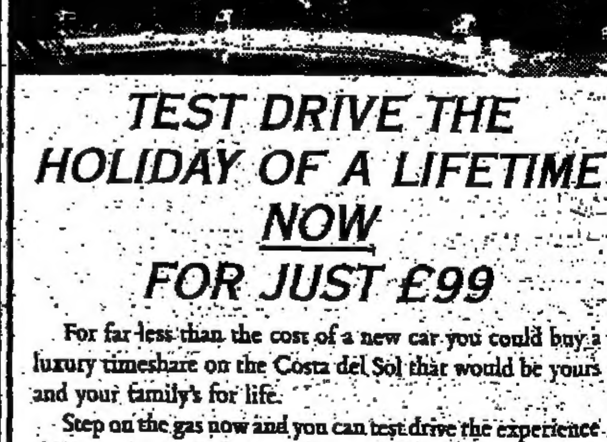
RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until 7.00pm. 6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition 9.00 For Schools: Topic Resources 7-9 9.15 Active Science 9.35 Verse Universe 9.45 Time and Tune 10.05 Drama Workshop 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative 12.30pm Education Matters 1.15 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 1.30 BFBS Worldwide: Simon and the Squad 2.30 World Service, Discovery; 3.00 News and Sport, 3.05 Outlook; 3.30 Patriot or Spy?; 3.45 Good Books; 4.00 News and Sport; 4.05 Development '92 4.35 *Five Aside 7.15 Vlad the Drac* Returns 7.30 The Speckled Panic 8.00 Champion Sport 10.00 News and Sport 10.10 Hit the North 12.00 News and Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am World Business Report 4.40 Travel and weather news 4.45 News and Press Review in German 5.00 Morgenmagazin 5.20 Tips fur Touristen 5.24 News in German 5.30 Europe Today 5.59 Weather *6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 World News* 7.09 24 Hours live, News Summary 7.30 Development '92 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Replace a Disc 8.30 Screenplay 9.00 World News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Country Style 9.30 It Made Our World 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 News Summary 10.01 Omnibus *10.30 Jazz for the Asking* 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Londres Midi 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 11.59 Weather 12.00 World News 12.09pm News about Britain 12.15 New Ideas 12.35 Trees 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook live 2.30 Off the Shelf: Empire of the Sun 2.45 Good Books 3.00 World News 3.15 Patriot Or Spy? 3.30 Two Cheers for January 4.00 World News 4.09 News about Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World News & Business Review 5.15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 BBC English 6.29 News summary 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German features 7.54 News in German 8.00 World News & Business Review 8.15 Londres Derniere 8.30 Europe *Tonight* 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 From Our Own Correspondent 10.20 Sports International 10.50 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News 11.05 World Business Report 11.15 Good Books 11.30 Multitrack 2 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Two Cheers for January 1.00 World News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Waveguide 1.40 Book Choice 1.45 The Farming World 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Sports International 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Newsdesk

COMPILED BY GILLIAN MAXEY AND CAROLINE DONALD
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE



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